THE TIMES

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£7m appeal planned for Aintree

A £7m world-wide appeal to save the Grand National by purchasing Aintree racecourse from the owner, Mr Bill Davies, is to be launched by the Jockey Club. An Aintree Trust, headed by Lord Derby, will handle the funds, which have to be raised by November 1 Page 21

Central America initiative awaited

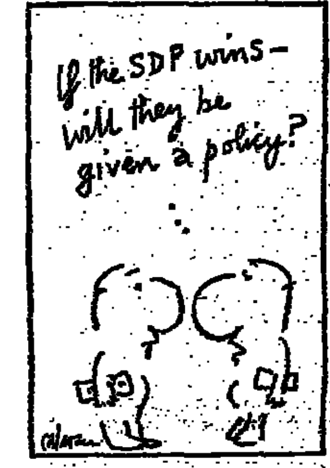
Washington is awaiting the results of Sunday's elections in El Salvador before pursuing efforts to find a negotiated settlement to the conflicts in Central America. Mexico is trying to arrange talks between the United States and Nicaragua Back page

Change of venue for Reagan

The Government has withdrawn the suggestion that President Reagan might address both Houses of Parliament in Westminster Hall during his visit in June. He will be invited instead to speak in the Royal Gallery, adjacent to the Lords.

Tory attack on GLC budget

The Conservative-controlled London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea asked the Divisional Court to declare the Greater London Council's budget for 1982-83 illegal and cited the Law Lords' ruling on the GLC's cheap fares policy Back page



New candidates are confirmed

Labour's National Executive Committee has confirmed the choice of two prospective candidates to replace Mr Frederick Mulley, MP for Sheffield, Park, and former Secretary of State for Defence, and Mr Frank Hooley, MP for Sheffield, Heeley.

£2,600m gamble on racing

Part three of 'The Times' series on the racing industry looks at the world of gambling; how Britons wager £2,600m annually; and why, contrary to popular belief, not all bookmakers thrive Page 20

Banking rescue

The full extent of the operation by the Bank of England and the clearing banks to rescue the so-called secondary banks in 1973-75 is only now being appreciated. Margaret Reid reveals that the Bank of England set aside about £100m in its accounts for the possible cost to itself of the crisis Page 17

State pay row

Trouble is brewing over the wage increases for chiefs of nationalized industries after the pubication of a White Paper which showed that pay for state chairmen was falling further behind the private sector Page 15

'The Times'

In earlier editions yesterday advertisements appeared on two pages designated for overseas news and sport. This was due to production difficulties for which we apologize.

Begin may call early election after failure in Knesset

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 24

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, said today that there was now no alternative but to bring forward the next general election, not due to be held until 1985. Although he gave no specific date, the Prime Minister speculated that a new poll would be held within a year.

Mr Begin was speaking informally to a small group of reporters in the Israeli Parliament. He admitted frankly that he did not think his Government could survive indefinitely with the present voting balance of 60 to 60 in the 120-seat Knesset, especially as a number of key issues were soon coming up. Mr Begin emphasized his belief that a new election would strengthen the position of his right-wing Likud group over the opposition Labour Party. Recent opinion polls have shown the Government faring strongly against Labour.

A senior government official said later that among matters which had still to be decided was whether a new election would be forced by a resignation, or by introducing a formal motion to dissolve the Knesset. Intense political discussions on the subject are expected over the next few weeks. However, no action is likely until the final Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, due on April 26—providing the Government can survive its present precarious position in Parliament.

The new atmosphere of political uncertainty was caused by last night's vote of no confidence in the Government's handling of events in the occupied West Bank which was tied 58-58. Mr Begin explained today that although he had wanted to resign last night, he had been overruled by his Cabinet colleagues.

An analysis of the voting shows that it was not left-wing opposition which upset the Begin Government but the rightwingers who, although outside the coalition, have usually given it their support in vital votes.

Meanwhile tension in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip continued to grow more dangerous today, with riots spreading and three more Arab youths shot dead by Israelis.

Some political observers said tonight that one purpose behind Mr Begin's remarks might be to try and scare those minority parties such as Telem, who voted against the Government last night but would be likely to suffer badly at any early poll.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, has announced that he intends to pursue every effort to try and overthrow the Government. However political observers think it is unlikely that Labour could form a viable alternative coalition with the present Knesset membership.

☐ London: To the great irritation of the Israeli Government, a group of ten British Members of Parliament are travelling to the Middle East at the invitation of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) (David Cross writes).

The fact-finding mission will enable the MPs to meet Mr Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader, as well as Arab mayors and intellectuals in Israeli-occupied territory.

Mr Nabil Ramlawi, the PLO representative in London, who was at Heathrow airport to see the MPs off yesterday, said he had heard that the Israeli Ambassador to Britain had tried to put pressure on the party not to go to the West Bank. But an Israeli Embassy spokesman here denied that any representations had been made.

☐ New York: The United Nations Security Council was meeting tonight to try to find a way to stem the wave of violence in the West Bank

Arab youths shot, page 8
Letters, page 13

Final polls favour Jenkins today

From Anthony Bevins, Glasgow

The voters of Glasgow, Hillhead, will today go to the polls secure in the knowledge that they have confused the newspaper and party-political pollsters.

Two further polls being published this morning by the *Daily Mail* and *The Sun*, showing a significant lead for Mr Roy Jenkins of the Social Democrats-Liberal Alliance just 24 hours after *The Daily Telegraph* Gallup had suggested a 6.5 per cent Labour lead for Mr David Wiseman.

The Sun poll, conducted by Audience and Selections by telephone on Tuesday, gave the Alliance 35 per cent, Conservatives 29 per cent, Labour 25 per cent and SNP 11 per cent, suggesting a majority of about 1,800.

On past by-election form, such front-page polling day prediction may well help the Alliance by promoting a further swing as tactical voters muster behind an expected winner.

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, had been unable to conceal his delight when news of Gallup had been delivered to him in the constituency last night. But then, Labour has not gained a by-election seat from the Conservatives since it won Bromsgrove in May, 1971.

Mr Gerald Malone, the Conservative candidate, yesterday warned the voters of the threat posed by the Gallup figures. "The greatest danger for Hillhead is that, unintentionally, this moderate constituency might find itself represented in Parliament on Friday by a Bennite socialist just because the vote was split", he said.

The Social Democrats suggested that a vote for themselves would serve the same purpose, in keeping out Labour, and Mr Jenkins said that he was quietly confident. The SDP canvass returns, the only returns revealed, gave Mr Jenkins 26 per cent, Conservatives 22 per cent, Labour 17 per cent, SNP 9 per cent, undecided 20 per cent and non-voters 6 per cent.

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Battle of issues, page 2
Ronald Butt, page 12

Opinion polls published this month

Date	Poll	Publication	Con	Lab	SDP	SNP
Mar 14	NOP	Observer	30%	33%	23%	14%
Mar 19	NOP	D Mail	28%	28%	29%	16%
Mar 22	Mori	D Express	29%	28%	28.5%	13.5%
Mar 23	System 3	Glasgow Her	27%	26%	31%	13%
Mar 24	Gallup	D Telegraph	27%	33.5%	26%	12.5%

Tebbit predicts a more stable economic future

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Evidence is mounting of a lasting change in industrial attitudes as the nation "kicks its bad habits," and the main economic indices show that Britain has come through the worst of the recession, Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, said yesterday.

Speaking to employers two years after Sir John Methven, then CBI director-general, gave a warning that the country was "drinking in the Last Chance Saloon," the minister argued: "Being as realistic as I can, there are many pointers to a clearer, more secure and more stable economic future than at any time in the last decade."

The facts and figures tell the story of change, he said. Inflation was then 17 per cent and rising; it is now 11 per cent and falling;
manufacturing productivity was down 7 per cent; it is now rising by 10 per cent;
strike losses are one-seventh of the 1979 figue;
interest rates were then 17 per cent; base rate is 13.5 per cent and falling;
the balance of payments was then £3,500m in deficit; it is now £8,000m in surplus.

Mr Tebitt continued: "Of course, we are being accused of heartlessness, of not caring. It has always been easier to give the saloon bar drunk another drink—it keeps him quiet for the moment.

"But this Government did say 'no'. Not only did we stop serving drinks in the Last Chance Saloon, we brought the shutters down hard on the fingers of those who were still drinking. We had to stop the binge, as Sir John Methven recognised, before we were all swept away in a torrent of excess.

"The evidence is mounting that the change of attitude we have seen in the last couple of years can be a lasting change—provided we do not weaken our resolve," the minister said.

"Five years ago, three years into the life of the Labour Government, we had to call in the IMF to bail us out. Now we watch as other countries with socialist programmes see their currencies slide, their interest rates soaring and their ambitious spnding plans curtailed," he added.

Brezhnev appeal to China for peace

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 24

President Brezhnev today made a strong appeal to China to end two decades of hostility and sit down at the negotiating table to discuss a return to normal relations.

Clearly attempting to exploit China's present tensions with the United States over Taiwan, the Soviet leader declared that his country was ready for closer political and economic relations with China and would take whatever positive steps were needed.

"We remember well the time when the Soviet Union and People's China were united by bonds of friendship and comradely cooperation. We have never considered the state of hostility and estrangement between our countries normal. We are prepared to come to terms, without any preliminary conditions, on measures acceptable to both sides to improve relations on the basis of mutual respect for each other's interests, non-interference in each other's affairs and mutual benefit."

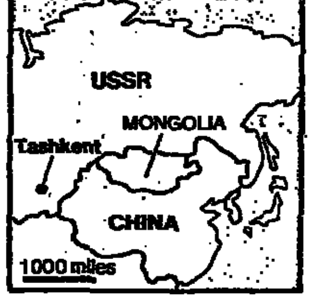
Speaking in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, which is not far from the Chinese border, Mr Brezhnev said the Russians had no territorial claims on China. They were ready to resume the border talks, broken off by Peking in 1980 after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, and look for ways to strengthen trust along the Chinese-Soviet frontier.

Drawing a pointed contrast with the United States, he reminded China that the Soviet Union had never supported a "two Chinas" policy, and had always recognized Peking's sovereignty over Taiwan.

He insisted that whatever disagreements the Russians had with China over foreign policy, they did not deny that China was indeed a communist country, and they had never tried to interfere in its internal affairs.

Mr Brezhnev was in Tashkent to award the Order of Lenin to Uzbekistan for the republic's recent agricultural successes. He took advantage of his first visit to central Asia for some time to review Soviet relations with other important Asian neighbours, in particular Japan and India.

He had harsh words for the Japanese. In spite of beneficial economic relations, he said, co-operation was not nearly as extensive as it could be. For this he blamed "external forces"—clearly implying the



United States—for putting obstacles in the way of the normalization of relations. But he also accused Japan of supporting the "hackneyed myth" of the Soviet threat, and allowing itself to be drawn into a "maelstrom of anti-Soviet policy".

He called on Tokyo to look again at Soviet proposals, made last year, for new confidence-building measures in the Far East, and added: "Frankly, it is hard to understand what moral right some figures in Tokyo have to tell their people and the world about 'apprehensions' allegedly aroused in them by some or other actions of the USSR if they do not even wish to hear about our proposals."

He contrasted all this with the "friendly co-operation" his country had enjoyed with India for the past 25 years. He said

Continued on back page, col 1

Troops patrol Dacca after bloodless coup

By Leslie Plommer

Troops are patrolling parts of Dacca and a curfew is in force today after the military coup which Bangladesh had been expecting came early yesterday.

General Mohammad Hossain Ershad, aged 52, the Army Chief of Staff, is expected to address the nation soon, after declaring himself martial law administrator in a 35-minute speech on Dacca radio. He cited corruption and infighting in the ruling Bangladesh National Party as reasons for the Army's move.

There has been no official word of the aging President Abdus Sattar, who has been dismissed with his ministers and Cabinet, since he made a short and emotional radio statement before General Ershad spoke.

There are no reports of fighting or bloodshed and the country now is waiting for General Ershad to select his promised civilian President and advisory council.

The general opened one telephone line to London yesterday to speak to his close friend Mr Shams-ud Doha, Bangladesh High Commissioner, who said he "sounded tired".

New leader, page 6


Tony Weaver

The Queen, talking to nursing staff when she opened the Alexandra wing of the London Hospital, Whitechapel, yesterday (Report, Page 5).

Informers crippling IRA, says RUC chief

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Chief Constable of the RUC declared yesterday that terrorists in the province were reeling from the blows inflicted upon them by informers whose evidence had led to the charging of almost 200 terrorists who were mainly members of the IRA and Irish National Liberation Army.

Sir John Hermon, although denying that the police offered sums of £50,000 or more for their information did not take the opportunity to deny that some payments are being made.

In a rare interview he said: "We have been in the business of combating terrorism for many years and of course we deal in information."

The Chief Constable added that people giving evidence on which convictions could be made were offered a safe haven from Provisional IRA killers. Sir John refused to say that the battle against terrorism in Ulster was being won but he added: "The terrorists are becoming desperate. What will win this will be the responsibility and support of the total community north and south of the border".

Since last autumn the security forces in the north and south have had increasing success with defectors in the north, now believed to number 15, giving information that has led to the arrest of hundreds of terrorists causing serious problems within their organizations.

Much of this information has led to arms and ammunition finds in border areas. Within the next two days at least 12 men are to appear in courts on charges ranging from membership of the INLA to possession of explosives and attempted murder.

Apart from the information being given by informers, the Garda in the republic have also had a series of successes in the past eight weeks, among them the discovery of arms and ammunition on six successive days in border areas.

They have also arrested and charged Gerard Tuite, who escaped from Brixton prison, and remanded him on charges of causing explosions in England under an Act which allows suspects to be tried in the republic for acts allegedly committed in England. Six men who escaped from Crumlin Road jail in Belfast have also been arrested, and some jailed, in the republic.

These successes are reflected in an editorial in *Police Beat*, the official magazine of the Police Federation in Northern Ireland. It congratulates the Garda saying that February was a milestone on the road to the elmination of terrorism and that milestone had been reached as a result of work by the republic's police rather than the RUC.

In Ulster the police say that even before the arrest of the alleged "supergrass" Mr Christopher Black at the end of November they had made a significant breakthrough. Two months after his arrest, the Provisional IRA offered a two week amnesty to co-called "touts" within the organization.

It was an admission that informers were seriously damaging their operations. The usual penalty for informing is death, and during the past 16 months seven men have been murdered on suspicion of informing.

However, until this week the police have refused to comment publicly on their use of informers and Sir John's remarks must bring fears that the IRA will be provoked into some spectacular demonstration.

One theory is that they were forced to respond late on Tuesday night after statements from men released after police withdrew charges including attempted murder. Mr Sean O'Hara, brother of the dead hunger striker Mr Patsy O'Hara, said the police were offering up to £80,000 and free and safe passage out of Ulster, for information leading to convictions.

Arms finds, page 2

Scarman, Lane criticize ethnic crime figures

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, and Lord Scarman, author of the report on the Brixton riots, yesterday joined forces in the Lords to speak of the dangers threatening society from the rising crime rate. During a debate on law and order, the two judges, among the most senior in Britain, criticized the Metropolitan Police's decision to publish statistics giving the ethnic origins of certain categories of criminal.

Without directly mentioning those figures Lord Lane said that statistics were mostly misleading and largely unintelligible. Lord Scarman said he agreed wholly with Lord Lane. Criminal statistics were more unreliable than most, he said.

In what looked like a reference to the explanation from the Government that the statistics were issued in the interests of getting at the truth, Lord Scarman pointed out that statistics were a morass and that there were other paths to safety than the statistical path.

Both also spoke powerfully in support of the police and of the need for public support for the police. The Lord Chief Justice appealed for the support of the law abiding citizen, pointing out that nothing could do more to destory the efficacy of the police than the undermining of their authority by people who ought to know better.

Lord Scarman said he hed heard and experienced nothing since his report to indicate to him that any of his recommendations were wrong or that his analysis was faulty.

Emphasizing that it was imperative for the public to support the police, he told the House how, at the outbreak of the Brixton riots, a few unreinforced policemen, many of them young, stood between us, the inner city of London and the total collapse of law and order.

That was an indication of the need for a strong and well supported police force. If that thin blue line, Lord Scarman said, had been overwhelmed, and it nearly was, there would have been no way of handling the situation except by the awful ultimate requirement of calling in the Army. To have had to turn the military inwards on British people was not something that could possibly be accepted in a tolerant and free society.

Lord Scarman went on to urge the House to forget the trendy language of "community policing". What he was talking about in his report was what the police had been doing ever since Robert Peel. He had no doubt that the police were well aware of the need to cultivate the consent of the community. The difficulty was how to cultivate that consent in an area where there was ethnic diversity.

In areas such as Brixton, there was an ethnic gap between the white establishment, represented by the police, and the youngsters of whatever group. There was also a generation gap. It was no use thinking you could get across to Brixton teenagers by merely chatting up middle-aged men and women who run youth centres and schools.

Parliament, page 4

Warning by Howe on inflation

By David Blake
Economics Editor

A warning that living standards will have to fall further if inflation is to be brought down and profits restored came last night from Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. But he told a Commons Treasury Committee that the process could be made easier if pay settlements stay low.

"The better we do on pay the better the prospects for real living standards, jobs and inflation," he said.

The Chancellor coupled his warning with an optimistic assessment of the prospects for bringing inflation down. He said that the latest retail price figures strengthened his confidence in the Budget forecast that inflation will be down to 9 per cent by the end of this year and to 7.5 per cent by the second quarter of 1983.

Sir Geoffrey was being questioned by the Committee on the budget and economic prospects. In the course of an easy ride, he took the opportunity to express British concern over United States economic policy and to hint that behind-the-scenes efforts are being made to shift the American authorities.

He denied suggestions that Britain is committed to raising its interest rates if United States rates go higher. But he drew attention to worries about the rising Budget deficit the Americans are expecting to run in the future.

The problems caused by American interest rates affected the whole world, the Chancellor continued, and would be discussed in various forums over the coming months.

Papal visit 'backed by half the country'

By Nicholas Timmins

One in eight people disapprove of the Pope's visit to Britain, a Gallup Poll survey conducted for the Roman Catholic newspaper *The Universe* showed yesterday.

While the views of those claiming allegiance to the Anglican churches — the Church of England, the Church of Scotland and the Church in Wales — broadly reflect the national opinion, attitudes in the free churches are more sharply divided. Fifty-three per cent of those describing themselves as Free Church approve of the visit but 19 per cent disapprove.

In the Anglican churches 12 per cent disapprove, while 48 per cent support the visit. Nationally, 50 per cent support it.

Among those describing themselves as Roman Catholics, opinion, not surprisingly, is overwhelmingly in favour, 85 per cent approving the visit and 2 per cent disapproving. Only 11 per cent of Roman Catholics held neither opinion, against a third in the national sample.

The survey, of 1,032 people, was held over the days immediately after the Archbishop of Canterbury was shouted down in Liverpool on March 11, an event that might have heightened fears over the wisdom of the visit.

The prospect of the visit causing trouble, or aggravating the Irish problem was by far the most common reason given for opposing it, and featured in 27 % of the reasons given for disapproval. The next most common reason—20 %—was that it was a waste of money.

Disapproval of the visit because Britain was a Protestant country, or because the respondents did not like the Roman Catholic Church, feeling it to be too powerful, made up only 13 % and 3 % of the reasons given for disliking the visit. Age, sex and class had little bearing on reaction to the visit, but there were notable regional differences.

The poll implies that enthusiasm for it is warmest in the North-west, where he will visit Liverpool, with its large Roman Catholic population, and Manchester. In that region 64 % approved of the visit and only 5 % disapproved, against 12 % nationally.

Approval was lowest in the North-east at 40 %, but disapproval was highest in London (19 %) and Wales (18 %). Scotland, despite its strong Presbyterian tradition, matched almost exactly the national figures, with [illegible] approving the visit and 13 % disapproving.

Of the 13 per cent who said they attended church once a week or more often, 75 per cent supported the visit. Even among that group, however, 14 per cent — marginally more than the national figure — disapproved, suggesting, Gallup said, that the group feel very strongly about the visit.

Among those who said they never went to church, 42 per cent of the sample, 37 per cent approved of the visit and 13 per cent disapproved.

Attempt to calm fears, page 5

NEWS IN SUMMARY

17 arrested in drug squad raids

Seventeen people were last night being questioned by detectives investigating drug smuggling after police and Customs and Excise officers, some of the armed, staged a series of coordinated swoops on Heathrow airport and houses throughout the country.

Cannabis and cocaine believed to be worth at least £30,000 was seized after a plane from Johannesburg landed at Heathrow.

Meanwhile other officers from various regional crime squads raided houses in co Durham, Kent, London and Lancashire. Nine women and eight men were arrested.

A spokesman for the Number Five Regional Crime Squad, based at Hatfield, Hertfordshire, said they were investigating an international drug-smuggling ring centred in Lancashire and involving armed robberies carried out to finance the drug ring.

Turkey workers reject pay offer

Striking workers at Bernard Matthews turkey plants in East Anglia yesterday rejected in a secret ballot the company's latest pay offer, which would have added £7 to the basic wage of £67.71p. Mr Jack Boddy, general secretary of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, immediately asked Mr Matthews for fresh talks.

The union is seeking a 15.5 per cent increase in the basic wage, a reduction in the working week from 40 to 38 hours, and an extra week's holiday.

Fowler to join in nurses' pay talks

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, will meet nurses' leaders for pay talks in London on Monday. He agreed to the talks after receiving an urgent request from the nurses' staff side.

Union Leaders have said there is a distinct possibility of industrial action if a 6.45 per cent pay offer is not increased. The Confederation of Health Service Employees welcomed the minister's decision and said that they were still determined on a 12 per cent rise.

Loaders strike at Gatwick

Volunteers helped to unload British Caledonian aircraft at Gatwick yesterday when loaders and tug drivers went on strike over the disciplining of a worker for alleged pilfering. Substitute drivers were called in, but many flights were delayed or cancelled. British Caledonian said efforts were being made to resolve the dispute.

Girl improves

Sandra Radley, aged 17, the Scunthorpe girl who had a leg sewn back on by surgeons on Monday, continued to make satisfactory progress at Withington Hospital, Manchester, yesterday.

'Bell tolls for thee' TUC warns firms

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Trade union leaders yesterday demanded that employers should "stand up and be counted" on the Government's Employment Bill going through parliament, and Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary warned companies: "ask not for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee".

Giving the go-ahead for the labour movement's biggest campaign for more than a decade, the TUC General Council said that unions that were "attacked through the courts while pursuing justified objectives" would have the backing of other affiliated unions, and employers must face the risk that industrial relations would be gravely threatened.

A novel aspect of the unions' battle against the labour law reform is an assault on public opinion. One day in May union members will distribute several million copies of a leaflet explaining the dangers of the new legislation to the general public at focal points such as railway stations, shopping precincts and factory gates.

Mr Murray said yesterday: "The trade union movement is now gearing itself up for the most intensive period of campaigning for over ten years. In particular, unions are warning employers with whom they deal of the folly of seeking to use the anti-union weapons the Government is offering to them.

"Employers can do themselves, and the country, a *favour by telling the Govern*ment that they don't need or want this disruptive lagislation before it is too late.

"No sensible employer looking after his own interests can relish another brusing and damaging period of industrial conflict resulting from ill conceived and provacative legislation. The Bill should be scrapped before it poisons our industrial relations like its 1971 predecessor did."

Union leaders are resigned to the reality of the measures of Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employ*ment, opening* up union funds to civil actions for damages becoming law in mid-summer. Their main strategic effort is being directed to frustrating the lagislation once it has reached the stature book.

Delegates to a conference in Wembley, London, on April 5 are expected to endorse overwhelmingly an eight-point programme of opposition to the new law, and briefings of large and small unions alike on how to frustrate the Government's intention are under way.

In a further denunciation of the Cabinet, the TUC council argued that the drop in unadjusted unemployment figures below the politically sensitive three million mark "will fool no one."

Thousands of extra adults had become unemployed since February, hundreds of thousands of school-leavers knew their chances of getting a job this year were "olls against," and in the country as a whole the Government's own figures showed an expectation of 300,000 more adult workless this year. "No one can take any satisfaction from these figures," it said.

The TUC is also to examine the case for government subsidies to encourage the introduction of shorter working time in a way that saves or creates jobs. Similar "solidarity contracts" are operating in France, with some success.

Gormley says time will moderate Scargill

By Our Labour Editor

Time will moderate Mr Arthur Scargill, the militant left-wing president of the National Union of Mineworkers, and make him more susceptible to compromise, Mr Joseph Gormley, the outgoing pitman's leader, predicts yesterday.

In an interview with the Press Association Mr Gormley kept up his campaign against the left, saying: "If they want to get their socialist policies accepted they will have to give over frightening people to death."

The retiring NUM president replying to recent attacks on him from the militants on his executive, said: "In my opinion they were venting their spleen on the fact that I have been one of the biggest bugbears to them for so many yars — before Arthur Scargill ever came on the scene — before he was bloody dreamt of.

"They try to presume that they are the protectors of the working class, and all that tripe. But they cannot be the protectors of the working class when all they know is industrial action. You should not walk about with a chip on your shoulder all the time."

Of Mr Scargill he said: "He is a young fellow. He will, I hope, grow into the job. But he will not do so by shouting about the possibility of getting the lads out on to the streets at the slightest pretext. You have got to learn that that is not the way the lads want ot listen to you all the time. I think time will moderate Arthur. You get a sense of realization that the whole spirit of progress is compromise."

In his election "manifesto", *Miners in the Eighties*, Mr Scargill insisted: "The NUM must never shirk *its responsibilities by con*tinually negotiating compromises. We must neither fear the employer nor the Government when the interests of our members are at stake."

It will be some time before pitmen can judge who is right. On the preliminary agenda, published yesterday, for the union's policy-making conference in Inverness in July to decide what sort of pay claim to submit next winter, there are a number of militant pay demands ranging up nto a £120 a week minimum for the industry, against £88 at present.



Tony Weaver

Police Federation staff at Surbiton, Surrey, yesterday counting the replies, said to be more than 100,000, to the federation's newspaper advertisements calling for the restoration of capital punishment. All but about 200 were in favour.

Hillhead by-election

Battle of issues, not personalities

From Jonathan Wills, Glasgow

Glasgow looked a dismal city in the bitter days of January when Mr Roy Jenkins arrived to seek the Social Democratic Arty nomination and persuade the Liberal not to stand in the *by-election.*In the sunny spring weather of the last week of the campaign Glasgow has looked beautiful, in parts, despite the ravages of time, grime and some of the most hideous modern architecture in Europe.

The devastated townscape in parts of Glasgow is the responsibility of generations of Labour cuncillors. The resentment over sites left as gaps and over tower blocks does not help Mr David Wiseman, of the Labour Party, the candidate who has campaigned hardest on the local issues of housing, planning and public amenities. In the city there is bitterness about what has been done to Galsgow, the "dear green place".

In the campaign there has also been bitterness, but according to Mr Bruce Millan, who has served half a life sentence as a Glasgow Labour MP, the exchange of ritual insults has been remarkably restrained by Glaswegian standards.

Mr Millan points to the positive things that Labour has dome for a city where only one seat, Hillhead, was held by a Conservative. He cites the work of the Scottish Development Agency and the encouragement given to housing associations and voluntary groups, with whom Mr Wiseman has been so closely involved in his profession of community worker.

The relative absence of personal abuse must also have also have surprised Mr Jenkins, who was once thought to possess a rhinoceros hide carpet bag. When he first flew in on the London *shuttle* it seemen a foregone conclusion that he would soon be in orbit on the strength of his personality, which epitomizes the moderate centre of British politics.

To a remarkable degree this by-election has been about issues, not about personalities. Week by week the SDP—Liberal Alliance has been nudged *back* to the old issues that divide Hillhead: unemployment, nuclear weapons, the EEC, bad housing, law and order, education cuts and develution, mostly in that order.

That is ground of the establishment parties' choosing. If the voters believe that government economic policies will eventually work, if they want to keep nuclear weapons, stay in the EEC and back the hard-liners on law and order, they will vote for Mr Gerald Malone, the Conservative and Unionist candidate.

If they want a reformed Labour Party, purged of its undemocratic internal customs, and committed to making Labour governments do what they say they will *do, then Mr Wiseman is* the man. If they have grown cynical about both there is a third choice in the person of Mr George Leslie, who has fought a brilliant and determined campaign to rescue a once endangered species, the Scottish National Party.

Then there is Mr Jenkins, the breaker of moulds. Mr Jenkins has "weight" but detailed questioning has revealed a *disturbing* degree of equivocation that is very much in the mould of the Butskellite poitics of the 1950s.

Man in the centre if votes are tied

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Robert Calderwood, the returning officer for today's by-election at Glasgow, Hillhead, faces an unenviable task if the result turns out to be as close as the polls are predicting. If a recount, or a succession of them, are necessary Mr Calderwood is the man responsible in law for deciding when the counting has to *stop* and a result declared. Ultimately he could order the candidates to draw lots in the event of a tied vote.

Mr Calderwood will be guided tonight by the rules for the conduct of parliamentary elections laid down in the second schedule to the Representation of the People Act, 1949.

Rule 47 stipulates that a candidate or his election agent may, if present when the counting or recounting *of votes is completed,* require the returning officer to have the votes recounted or again recounted "but the returning officer may refuse to do so if in his opinion the request is unreasonable".

It adds that "no step shall be taken on the completion of the counting or any recount of votes until the candidates and election agent present at the completion thereof have been given a reasonable opportunity to exercise the right conferred by this rule".

But it is rule 50, entitled Equality of Votes to which Mr Calderwood will be hoping he does not have to have recourse.

It states: "Where, after the counting of the votes (including any recount) is com*pleted, an equality of votes* is found to exist between any candidates and the addition of a vote would entitle any of those candidates to be declared elected, the returning officer shall decide forthwith between those candidates by lot, and proceed as if the candidate on whom the lot falls had received an additional vote".

Yesterday his office in Glasgow was sanguine about such a prospect, saying that he would face it if arose and that the method of choosing by lot had not been decided.

Mr Calderwood can take comfort from the fact *that* such a situation has not arisen this century. It is recorded, however, that in 1886, after both the Conservative and Liberal candidates received 3,049 votes in Ashton-under-Lyne the returning officer, Mr James Walker, gave a casting vote for Mr John Addison, the Conservative, who was duly returned.

Recounts have been comparatively rare in recent by-elections. The record number at general elections is seven, the first in October, 1964, when Mr Dennis Hobden (Labour) eventually won at Brighton, Kempton, by seven votes.

The second was perhaps the most spectacular, when Sir Harmar Nicholls was elected MP for Peterborough by three votes in April, 1966.

At Ilkeston, Derbyshire, in 1931 the count commenced immediately after the close of polling and went on to 2.30am when, after four recounts, a fifth was demanded. The returning officer adjourned the count until 10.30 am and after a further two hours Mr Abraham John Flint was declared elected by two votes, the narrowest majority since the introduction of universal suffrage in 1918.

Science report

Energy of the pancake stars

By the Staff of "Nature"

A spectacular new addition has just been made to the extraordinary events that theoretical physicists believe take place when stars fall into the massive black holes at the centre of distant galaxies and quasars.

According to Dr B. Carter and Dr J. Luminet, of the Paris Observatory, some of those stars become flattened into a pancake shape by tidal forces and explode. In those circumstances the energy released may be even more than has been believed hitherto.

Quasars are the most energetic extragalactic objects known. Most astronomers now believe that they are extremely distant objects emitting vast quantities of energy. The light from quasars has been seen to vary over periods of a day or less, leading theorists to deduce that the power source must be as small as the distance that light can travel in that time.

That implies that an amount of radiation equivalent to that emitted by a billion of our suns is coming from a volume of space not much larger than that enclosing our solar system. Closer to us certain "active" galaxies also appear to have small nuclei radiating great amounts of energy.

The *explanation* for those phenomena favoured at present is that a large amount of matter, much of it in the form of stars, is falling into a massive central black hole. Black holes are thought to represent the evolutionary fate of some stars. After such stars have stopped producing energy by nuclear fusion they collapse, and as not even the strength of the matter of which they consist is sufficient to resist this gravitational contraction, they go on collapsing beyond the point where the "escape velocity" exceeds that of light.

In the cases of quasars and Seyfert galaxies the masses of the central black holes are thought to correspond to many millions (even billions) of suns.

At the centres of galaxies, stars are far more densely distributed than in our own neighbourhood. In the presence of a massive but compact black hole, the stars will experience extreme gravitational phenomena. In some cases stars will be torn apart by *tidal forces* caused by the changes in the pull of gravity across their diameters.

In other cases stars orbiting at high velocities about the black hole will collide and be destroyed. In both instances the gaseous debris will fall into the star, becoming tremendously heated in the process and giving off the energy we observe.

The theory of Dr Carter and Dr Luminet predicts another possible fate: They have examined the fates of cerain types of stars as they enter the "Roche radius" of the black hole, the point at which tidal forces become large enough possibly to break them apart.

Some "compressible" stars, they believe, will respond to tidal and other forces by changing shape to that of a pancake. although that shape lasts only for a short time, the internal temperature of the star rises and a nuclear detonation results.

In the process a large amount of radiation will be emitted and the gaseous debris will be *ejected* at high velocity, some into orbit around the region altogether. The authors speculate that the resulting gas clouds may even undergo subsequent nuclear explosions.

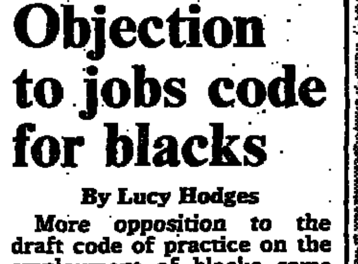
Whether such phenomena can be detected remains to be seen. Only certain types of stars moving in certain orbits will experience such catastrophic fates.

Nobody knows in detail what stars or other forms of matter make up these distant objects or how they behave. However, ground-based telescopes are now approaching the point where the structure of galactic nuclei and quasars can be resolved.

Source: *Nature*, Vol 296, page 211, (March 18), 1982

CORRECTION

The campaign against rape in marriage, reported on March 16, was organized by the Women's Aid Federation, Women against Violence against Women, and Rights of Women.



Objection to jobs code for blacks

By Lucy Hodges

More opposition to the draft code of practice on the employment of blacks came last night from MPs, who indicated that they would suggest to the Minister that it should be amended.

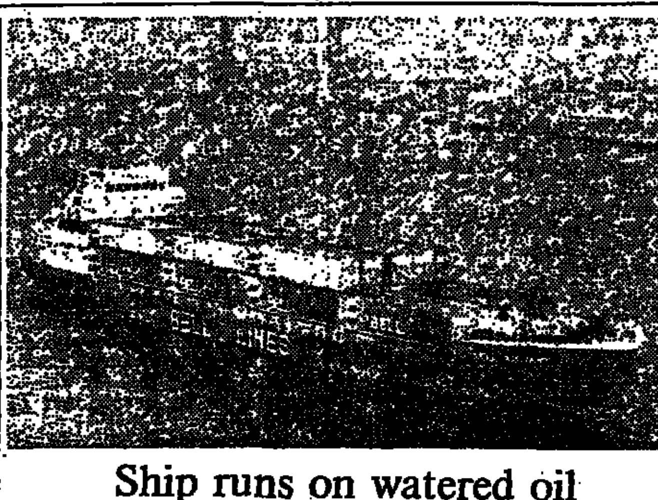
Much of the objection to the code, which was drawn up by the Commission for Racial Equality, centres on the proposal that firms should appoint a number of black people in their workforce.

But Mr Jonathan Aitken, Conservative MP for Thanet, said at a hearing of the select committee on employment yesterday that he did not like the recommendation for firms to give extended leave *to staff wanting to visit their* countries of origin, and to provide English language training for blacks.

He thought they should not be included in a code of practice to be laid before Parliament and used as a benchmark by industrial tribunals. The bulk of the code centres on recommendations that firms should adopt equal opportunity policies and take steps to monitor the results.

Mr David Lane, outgoing chairman of the commission, said the code had been prepared after wide consultation with uniions, employers and officials, and MPs should give equal weight to the injustice black people face in employment. The code would help to put that right.

The code, which the commission has the power to draw up under the Race Relations Act, 1976, is awaiting the approval of Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment. He must either approve it or reject it, and publish reasons for doing so.



Ship runs on watered oil

This ship not only floats on water but burns it in the engine, thus saving its owner a tidy sum. (Michael Baily writes). Using a patent emulsifier developed at Newcastle University, it has achieved up to 5 per cent saving oil fuel while operationing between Britain and the Continent during the past year. Costing from £8,000 to fit, the system is now on sale throughout the world.

It mixes diesel oil and water, using what is called the interface system, in which tiny particals of water are surrounded by a film of oil before being fed into the engine. Adding water to the combustion process cuts fuel consumption, reduces the amount of oxides of nitrogen in the exhaust gas components, and reduces engine fouling.

The Garda's arms finds

From Richard Ford Belfast

The following are among the list of arms, ammunition and explosives found by the Garda in the Irish Republic:

November 30, 1981: West Donega: 15 rifles, 1 shotgun, 1 machine-gun, 6,000 rounds of ammunition.

December 10, 1981: Near Letterkenny, Donegal: Four rifles and one machine-gun.

January, 1982: Scotstown Monaghan: 1380 rounds of ammunition, 710lb of explos*ive material and detonators* and an armalite rifle. Bandon, Cork: 500 rounds ammunition, two detonators. Dundalk, Louth: eight home-made mortar bombs, Emyvale, Monaghan: Blast bombs, detonators, gelignite ad bomb components, five high-powered rifles, including a Lee-Enfield and Armalites, and 50,000 rounds of ammunition. Near Clones: a booby-trapped bomb.

February, 1982: Emyvale: two hand guns, 200 ft of cortex. Near Dundalk: seven primed mortar bombs, 324 lb of explosive and 200 ft of cortex. Near Dundalk: one rifle, 78 rounds of ammunition, 500 lb of explosive mixture, milk churns and beer kegs with explosive charges

March, 1982: Ballyglass, co Mayo: 11 rifles, 1,300 rounds of ammunition. Ashborne: co Meath: one pistol, one revolver, 8,000 rounds of ammunition. Galway, co Galway: 50 cassette-style incendiary devices, with remote control devices operating on ultra-high frequencies.

Dail blow to Haughey on EEC job

From Our Correspondent Dublin

Plans by M Charles Haughey, the new Irish Prime Minister, to reduce the opposition vite in the finely balanced Dail by appointing a member of Fine Gael as Ireland's EEC commissioner were foiled yesterday when Mr Richard Burke, a former commissioner, changed his mind about accepting the post.

Mr Burke who at first accepted the £60,000-a-year job, announced his decision to reject the offer after a meeting.

Mr Haughey's nomination appears to have been based on his eagerness to reduce the opposition voting strength and have a loyal Fianna Fail politician returned in the ensuing by-election. He is now expected to seek a commissioner from within Fianna Fail but possibly outside the Dail, where he connot afford to lose even one vote.

Meanwhile Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Fine Gael leader, was confirmed in his position at a meeting of TSs and senators yesterday by 62 votes to five.

Nobody wants 170 reprieved dogs

Manila. — Police rescued 170 dogs from the Philippines biggest supplier of dog meat only to face the embarrassment of having to return them temporarily for safe-keeping because nobody could house and feed them.

Children have typhoid

A woman and 12 children were in hospital in Southampton yesterday after tests confirmed that two of the children have typhoid.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 40; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.80; Greece Dr 80; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq ID 0 500; Irish Republic 30p; Italy L 1800; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.500; Lebanon L1 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 33; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 90; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria L$5.50; Tunisia Din 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

Science report

Energy of the pancake stars

By the Staff of "Nature"

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Quasars are the most ... ergetic extragalactic ... jects known. Most as... onomers now believe that ... ey are extremely distant ... jects emitting vast quan... ies of energy. The light ... om quasars has been seen ... vary over periods of a ... y or less, leading theor... s to deduce that the ... wer source must be as ... all as the distance that ... ght can travel in that ... ne.

That implies that an ... ount of radiation equiva... nt to that emitted by a ... llion of our suns is ... ming from a volume of ... ace not much larger than ... at enclosing our solar ... stem. Closer to us cer... in "active" galaxies also ... pear to have small nuclei ... diating great amounts of ... ergy.

The explanation for ... ose phenomena favoured ... present is that a large ... ount of matter, much of ... in the form of stars, is ... lling into a massive ... ntral black hole. Black ... oles are thought to rep... esent the evolutionary ... te of some stars. After ... ch stars have stopped ... roducing energy by nuclear ... sion they collapse, and as ... ot even the strength of ... e matter of which they ... onsist is sufficient to ... esist this gravitational ... ontraction they go on ... ollapsing beyond the point ... here the "escape vel... city" exceeds that of ... ght.

In the cases of quasars ... nd Seyfert galaxies the ... asses of the central black ... oles are thought to corre... pond to many millions ... even billions of suns.

At the centres of galaxies, ... tars are far more densely ... istributed than in our own ...

Study shows that mugging is extremely rare

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Though mugging is greatly feared, it is extremely rare and few victims are seriously injured, a report in this week's *New Society* of an official Home Office study says.

The Home Office team looked at areas where mugging was most common in Liverpool, Manchester and Birmingham. Mr Malcolm Ramsey, a Home Office research officer, says that men were more often victims of muggings than women (44 per cent), and young people aged under 30 (45 per cent) more than pensioners (14 per cent).

In Liverpool and Manchester white people were responsible for a greater proportion of the muggings than were blacks. Only in Birmingham, where there was the greatest proportion of less serious offences, did blacks predominate.

Overall the assailants were black in fewer than half the attack. But it would be a mistake to see mugging as necessarily being a type of crime committed by blacks, Mr Ramsey says.

"In several of the disadvantaged areas where the attacks took place, blacks came close to representing a majority among the younger people in the local population; and it is younger people who are most prone to commit this type of crime." The article expresses surprise that only one in ten victims was unsure of the attacker's ethnic identity. In many cases judgments were based on a quick glimpse in the dark.

In the centre of Southampton, a city with a substantial ethnic minority, Home Office research showed that only one of 21 muggings there in 1980 involved a black attacker. The rest were the work of whites.

Legally there is no such thing as mugging. For the purposes of the study mugging was defined as "open, if usually brief, confrontations in the street between strangers, involving a willingness to use force rather than stealth". No precise figures of muggings can be calculated on a national basis.

Recently both robberies and thefts from the person have been recorded in ever-increasing numbers. Some robberies are from banks or other businesses, and many thefts from the person are merely surreptitious pickpocketings. The rise may partly reflect a greater willingness to report such offences to the police; but it is likely that there has been a substantial increase in the underlying rate of the crimes.

"Even so, the level of robberies, encompassing the more serious muggings, recorded by the police in 1980 was only 30 per 100,000 of the total population in England and Wales."

The research team took a random sample of crime files in two or three of the worst affected divisions in the three cities chosen, including the city centre, covering the first six months of last year.

Weapons were involved in fewer than one in six incidents and used in only 12 of 294 cases. More than nine out ten victims had money or possessions taken and more than half (54 per cent) were hurt, mostly receiving cuts and bruises. Fifty-nine victims needed short-term hospital treatment and nine (3 per cent) stayed in hospital longer than 12 hours.

The defective myth, page 12





Peter Trievnor

Church paintings restored

A member of an Anglo-German team of picture restorers at work repairing part of the eighteenth-century wall painting and the ceiling painting, "The Adoration" by Laguerre at St Lawrence Church, Stanmore, Middlesex (above). Wall-painting conservation being such a small and highly specialized craft the Council for the Care of Churches asked for help from Herr Wolfgang Gärtner, of Tübingen, who leads a team of restorers wrking in southern Germany.

St Lawrence church (right) was rebuilt in 1715 by James Bridges, first Duke of Chandos, in the Continental baroque style, and is considered unique among English parish churches for its architecture and interior decoration.

Thewood carving was carried out by Grinling Gibbons, the Englishman trained in Rotterdam, and all the artists employed on the decoration, including Laguerre, Mellucci and Francesco Sleter, were brought to Stanmore from abroad. George Frederick Handel was for a time the musician at this church.

Man who killed sex shops in Atlanta

By David Nicholson-Lord

Once upon a time there were 44 dirty bookshops in the United States city of Atlanta, Georgia. Now there is none. Yesterday Mr Hinson McAuliffe explained why.

It was purely, MrMcAuliffe said, a question of good law, good law enforcement officers, good prosecutors and good judges. The British, he clearly implied, though a fine and good people, were deficient in certain of those respects. But he was far too polite to say so.

Mr McAuliffe, aged 60, is a Baptist, a family man and a former US Army corporal stationed in Britain during the war. He looks not unlike President Eisenhower. More important, he is the man who eradicated sex shops from the face of central Atlanta and believer that, within five years if present trends continue, the whole of the United States could be similarly relieved.

He was invited to Britain and introduced to the press yesterday by Mrs Mary Whitehouse, honorary president of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, which he will address on Saturday. Today he will speak to MPs and peers in advance of the second reading of the Dissemination of Pornography Bill in the Lords.

The invitation to Mr McAuliffe, who is Solicitor General and thus chief prosecutor in Fulton County, covering Atlanta, was designed to emphasize to Britain its "disastrous" lack of control over pornography, Mrs Whitehouse said. She knew from "absolutely impeccable" sources that Mafia money was behind much of the British pornography industry.

According to MrMcAuliffe, the launching point for his drive against the sex shops was a Georgia state law in 1975 incorporating a revised ruling from the US Supreme Court. That changed the obscenity test for material from "Utterly without redeeming social value" to "lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value".

Armed with the new law, unprompted by any religious lobby and in the face of some harsh press treatment, Mr McAuliffe sent out his undercover investigators to do battle.

The first stage was straightforward obscenity prosecutions. Fines were raised from $300 to $5,000. Next came prosecutions for nuisance, assaults and immoral acts committed in shops. Trade fell off when peep-show doors were dismantled by order.

Finally Mr McAuliffe had his men bring involuntary bankruptcy petitions against pornographers, forcing them to disclose their assets. That broke the back of resistance, he said. The 20 remaining sex shops closed down.

Mr McAuliffe thought that most of the two million people in Atlanta were happier as a result.

Misconceptions were rite about the deep South's so-called bable belt, Mr McAuliffe added. "There are so many people in a position to do what I did but who feel they don't have the backing of the public.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Judge bans council newspaper

A local government newspaper with a front page article aimed to promote the election of a Labour candidate was banned by a judge yesterday.

Lord Ross in the Court of Session in Edinburgh granted an order banning the *Lothian Clarion*, the newspaper of Lothian regional council, from being distributed to 300,000 households for a period up to and including the local government elections on May 6.

The interim interdict was sought by three Conservative councillors, who said the article was in breach of the Representation of the People Act, 1949. Under the Act no expenses could be incurred with a view to promoting the election of any candidate by anyone except the candidate or his agent.

Men praised for rail rescue

Mr Frank Wilby and Mr Joseph Jagdeo, who work for British Rail, were praised by the police yesterday for rescuing a women "from certain death" when a man tried to push her in front of a train at Clapham Juntion, south London.

The Central Criminal Court was told that Donald Dufton, aged 50, the attacker of Pampisford Road, Croydon, was said by psychiatrists to have an obsessive urge to kill someone on a station. He was sent to Broadmoor indefinitely when he admitted attempting to murder the women.

Falling horse killed jockey

Mr John Thorne, a top jockey, died after his horse, Bend A Knee, somersaulted and fell on him, an inquest in Oxford heard yesterday. Mr Thorne, aged 55, of Leamington Spa, Warickshire, was in a point-to-point meeting near Banbury, Oxfordshire, he died in hospital.

A verdict of accidental death was recorded on Mr Thorne who finished second in last year's Grand National.

Soccer fan fined

A Brighton football supporter aged 16 who threw a fishing weight during a first division match at Michael Robinson, the Brighton and Irish Republic player, scarring his face, was ordered to pay £200 and £50 compensation by a juvenile court at Hove, East Sussex, yesterday.

Police chief charged

Sri Lanka's deputy chief of police was granted unconditional bail at Marlborough Street Court, London, yesterday accused of shoplifting fro Selfridges in Oxford Street. Mr Tyrrell Gunatilaka, aged 55, who is in London for open heart surgery, is to appear at Wells Street court on Tuesday.

Amnesty's leadership challenged

By Michael Horsnell

The despute between members of Amnesty International's British section over the appointment of Mr Jeremy Thorpe as director will continue on Saturday, when an emergency resolution of no confidence in the organization's council, which appointed the former leader of the Liberal Party last month, will be proposed.

Sir Michael Williams, the chairman of the February 1982 Action Committee, which was formed to reverse the appointment, is expected to propose the motion at the annual general meeting of the section in Roehampton, south-west London.

The motion, which may force the resignation of Mr Roger Briottet, the chairman, and the 26-member council, is believed to allege that the British section can no longer function effectively under the council's governance.

It also welcomes the council's replacement by a new council whose quorum will be established on Saturday by the declaration of results of a limited election held since the appointment of Mr Thorpe.

Sir Michael, a regional coordinator for Amnesty International in the Middle East, said yesterday: "It is self-evident there was considerable feeling about the appointment of Mr Thorpe and that this will carry on to the AGM".

Mr Briottet, a leading supporter of Mr Thorpe, who resigned earlier this month in the face of an overwhelming campaign to oust him from the £14,000-a-year job, would not comment yesterday.

SEAT BELT TV FILM BLACKED

By Kenneth Gosling

Government information films on television, which include the clunk-click seat-belt campaign, have been blacked by the technicians' union over redundancies in the Central Office of Information's film and television division.

The redundancies of 26 members of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians are due to take effect next Wednesday after a government decision to hand to a private firm work previously undertaken by the CoI. The estimated saving for 1982-83 is £105,000.

The blacking has not yet spread to general government filming; but three government commercials due to be screened by Tyne Tees Television have been blacked, according to Mr Alan Sapper, the association's general secretary.

A CoI spokesman said: "It is a ministerial decision, all part of the government cuts; it is unfortunate that these people, mainly directors and assistant directors, editors and assistant editors, and set and graphics staff, are being made redundant." There were a further 135 employees in the film and television division, he said.

Water war ahead, says Plaid Cymru

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Plaid Cymru claimed yesterday that thousands of people throughout Wales were prepared to face court action rather than pay "unjust water charges".

The party launched its campaign against the Welsh Water Authority four weeks ago in spite of warnings that the action could lead to even higher bills for consumers.

Party strategists are determined to intensify the protest, pointing out that the campaign has already attracted more support tha the widespread acts of civil disobedience that forced the Government into its first demonstrable U-turn over the Welsh language issue.

Mr Dafydd Wigley, the Party president, has returned to the authority his unpaid bill for £267 and tomorrow a demonstration will be held outside the authority's headquarters in Brecon.

The compaign has been undertaken because consumers in Wales are charged up to twice as much for their water as people in England who receive their supplies from reservoirs in the principality. The whole question of Welsh water has been examined by the Parliamentary Committee on Welsh Affairs and its report, to be published next month, is expected to criticize some aspects of the authority's operation.

In its evidence to the committee, Plaid Cymru said that Wales should be paid £40m for water exported to English authorities. That is about 25p a thousand gallons for the 240 million gallons a day that is "exported".

The dicument submitted to the commmittee by the Wales CBI says that the authority's failure to control manning levels may in part be attributed to its policy of no compulsory redundancies.

Its evidence showed that just five factories in Wales could pay more for water abstraction for industrial use than 20 factories in areas covered by four English water authorities.

Stansted 'too far out for passengers'

By Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent

It would be far more convenient for most passengers if no third London airport was built and Heathrow and possibly Gatwick were expanded to meet the foreseeable demand, the Air Transport Users Committee says in a submission to the Stansted inquiry.

That does not mean automatic endorsement of the counter-proposal for a fifth terminal at Heathrow, the committee says, though that may be the only practicable course.

The committee is the statutory consumer body for air travellers. Its case is that two airports are better than three, and that passengers would prefer not to travel 30 miles from central London to Stansted when they could go only 13 to Heathrow or 24 to Gatwick.

The committee does not think it far-sighted to scatter airports around London the way the Victorians scattered main-line railway stations."

The committee notes that the British Airports Authority says the Heathrow terminal five scheme would cost £57m more than the Stansted scheme. But that is a difference of only 10 per cent in total costs, and since all figures are approximate it could be several percentage points out.

In any case, the money saved by the CAA in building a new airport 30 miles from London would soon be spent by passengers getting out there", the committee says.

Although it may take longer to expand Heathrow than to build at Stansted, increases in passenger demand are unlikely to be as great as was believed a few years ago, it says. Last year air travel to and from London hardly changed.

With a new fourth terminal being built at Heathrow, and a second at Gatwick, by 1989 those airports will be capable of handling 64 million passengers a year, 73 per cent more than last year's level of 37 million.

Urban development 'threat to farming'

☐ The difficulties of farming on the edge of urban areas were vividly recounted yesterday at the Stansted inquiry (John Young writes).

Mr William Maiklem, who farms near Gatwick, told the inquiry of encounters with trespassers armed with shotguns and pistols, of unorganized motor cycle scrambles on his fields, and of frequent vandalism and arson.'

He regularly suffered from damage to fences, theft of virtually any movable item, and damage to any farm machinery left unattended or outside a secure area. Items as large as a subsoiler, some 3ft square and weighing more than a hundredweight, had been stolen.

Stored fertilizer bags had been slashed open and fires started deliberately. Incidents of treespass included not just people walking their dogs, but also football games, motor cycles being raced round fields, picnics and camp fires.

Local residents seemed to regard his land as a recreational area. Particularly worrying were trespassers carrying guns, whom he and his men were naturally reluctant to approach. Horse riders had laid out jumps in his fields, damaging hay and silage.

Despite frequent complaints, the police had only once felt able to bring a prosecution. The offending motor cyclists were given a small fine and made to pay £10 compensation.

Mr Robert Collins, who used to farm near Harlow, Essex, said he had suffered six deliberate fires in five years. At one farm half the buildings were lost in a fire, and in another a Dutch barn with the year's baled hay and straw was destroyed.

His insurance premiums had risen and there was a threat that the company would refuse to renew cover.

Besides theft and damage to property, there was also the uncertainty of not knowing when his land would be required by the authorities for new town expansion. He had no choice but to minimize all capital expenditure on buildings, machinery and on the land itself.

Morale among the farm wrkers had dropped and the best had sought jobs elsewhere. Finaly he, too, had sold up and bought another farm, only to find that it was threatened by the expansion of Stanstead.

Britain 'lagging in biotechnology'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Britian is falling behind in the development of the new biotechnology industries, the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts was told yesterday.

The Government's failure to lay the foundation for progress in that field came under severe attack from four fellows of the Royal Society, an organisation that is recognized as a hallmark of moderate opinion.

Their catalogue of complaints clearly impressed the parliamentarians.

The shortcomings they listed can be divided into four categories: The failure of the Government to act on recommendations made two years ago by the Cabinet's advisory board on research; The undermining of basic research programmes in universities on which the future of biotechnology is based; The discouragement of university and industry collaboration in a technology that is advancing very rapidly in the United States, Japan and some EEC countries; and finally the loss of first class scientists to the United States and the Continent.

Sir Arnold Burgen, Professor Patricia Clarke, Professor Brian Hartley and Professor M. D. Lilly, the four fellows, suggested that perhaps a lack of appreciation by ministers of the complicated and uniquely British way of organizing research and teaching might explain in part the havoc being caused.

Nevertheless, their various arguments pointed unequivocally to the conclusion that the United Kingdom was slipping behind in a new technology almost before it had begun, and the discoveries which have been made would be lost in much the same way as the country lost its position among leaders in microelectronics.

But the starting point for all their criticisms is the report by the late Dr Alfred Spinks, former director of research to ICI, to the Cabinet, recommending the creation of 20 new acdemic posts to strengthen the university groups collaborating on biotechnology.

Professor Hartley, director of the Centre for Biotechnology at Imperial College, London, said there had been no creative response from the Government to that study.

Professor Clarke explained the unusual character of biotechnology. It is not a university discipline in its own right, but an amalgamation of the expertise of microbiologists, geneticists, biochemists, plant scientists and chemical engineers. in fact it is a classic example of a rather misunderstood term, an interdisciplinary subject, she said.

The 20 academic posts proposed by Dr Spinks were a mixture of those disciplines. Professor Lilly says the purpose is to introduce them into the biotechnology groups being created in universities to fill the gaps in various teams.

The difficulty is that the posts would have to be paid for through the University Grants Committee, but the money to that body has been cut by the Department of Education and Science.

Professor Clarke said that the adoption of the Spinks report would mean that some of the best scientists would be enticed back to Britain. While Britain had wasted two years the French were pressing ahead with schemes that were based on university and industrial collaboration.

Government funds plea by nuclear protesters

By Our Science Editor

The Government is being asked to provide a public fund to enable objectors at the forthcoming inquiry into the introduction to Britain of the American type of pressurized water reactor (PWR) to put their case properly.

The request, on behalf of a number of environmental groups, is being made to Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, by the Friends of the Earth.

A letter to the minister from Mr Steven Billcliffe, the Friends' director, says the response to suggestions for public funding has been that objectors have yet to make out a case for support.

He says it is difficult to assess the scope and cost of the hearing planned into proposals to build a PWR at Sizewell, Suffolk. It depends on the final terms of the inquiry, the nature of the documentation on the Sizewell B PWR design that the Central Electricity Generating Board and the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate intend to publish, and the unpredictable length of the inquiry.

The Friends believe the cost of presenting a case against the Sizewell B reactor on safety grounds could be £250,000. They argue that public confidence in the examination of the issue will depend on the fairness with which the case for and against is presented.

One of the safety issues is in today's *New Scientist* analysed by Sir Alan Cottrell, Master of Jesus College, Cambridge, and former chief scientific adviser to the Government. He has been critical in the past of adoption of the American type of reactor which has its nuclear core encased in a single, steel pressure vessel.

His doubts centre in the possibility of a vessel having cracks or flaws, originating at the time of manufacture, which could cause sudden failure.

Sir Alan says there have been important developments since his estimates were made. The quality of steels and welding techniques has improved and the science of fracture mechanics has advanced.

On the other hand, small cracks in pressure vessels have been found in French PWRs. In some earlier American PWRs steel parts of the vessel nearest to the reactor core showed signs of becoming brittle through exposure to nuclear radiation. However, the cause of these two defects is known and they should be avoidable, Sir Alan says.

Fares cut by half

The Swansea-based South Wales Transport company are cutting fares by up to half to attract more passengers.

'Corruption rife' in Crown office

Garry Harrison found that corruption was rife when he was promoted to a responsible job at the Department of the Environment, it was said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

As a professional and technical officer in the department's Property Services Agency, he was reponsible for the maintenance of public buildings in Kensington, west London. But he admitted furnishing his home with central heating, double glazing, a lavatory suite, a wash machine and other gifts from contractors.

Mr Andrew Patience, for the defence, said: "He found himself in an environment where there was almost total lack of moral standards." He began taking "backhanders" for giving favours.

Mr Patience said: "Once he reached a relatively senior position for a man of his age he found that corruption was rife, and not only at his level but above him."

Harrison, aged 35, of Magnolia Avenue, Gillingham, Kent, now a self-employed plumber, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. He admitted taking £3,000 in cash bribes and domestic equipment worth £3,700 for his £60,000 house, from various contractors.

Judge Petre said: "It is absolutely essential that people in your position place the work to the benefit of the community, as you are using public money, and that you should not be influenced as to who you give the job to by how much they will put into your private pocket".

Mr Godfrey Carey, for the prosecution, said Scotland Yard's Fraud Squad began an investigation after an anonymous letter was sent to Greater London Council about the activities of one of the contractors.

Harrison told police that over seven years he "had allowed his position to be abused by receiving considerable enrichment in money or in kind".

He received the double-glazing for a firm in return for agreeing not to check inflated claims for payment and he was given £1,400 cash over two years from a plumbing firm.

William McCartney, aged 44, Formac's managing director, who admitted being involved in the corruption, said in a statement: "From talking to other contractors I knew I was expected to give Harrison money in order to get work, so I was not surprised when he made it known".

McCartney, of Brian Road, Harlington, Bedforshire, and his partner, William Allen, aged 41, of Beecroft Way, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, who also pleaded guilty, were each fined £1,500, with four months' imprisonment in default of payment.

Both admiited corruptly giving Harrison money between January and December, 1978. Harrison pleaded guilty to five charges that he corruptly accepted goods and cash between January, 1977, and January, 1980, whilst an agent under the Crown.

PARLIAMENT March 24 1982

Pornography is leading youngsters into crime

LAW AND ORDER

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, in his maiden speech in the House of Lords, said it would be dereliction of duty if the courts started treating recidivist young burglars with kid gloves.

Speaking in the debate on law and order, he defended judges against what he called recent heavy and hysterical criticism on sentences they had passed. He said it was impossible for the judges to be right and there was a limit to what judges could do.

He called for action against the huge increase in the sale of pornography traceable to glossy imports, large quantities of which came into the country disguised as Danish bacon or Dutch tomatoes. It found its way into the hands of young people with the inevitable results seen increasing every day.

Lord Renton (C) in opening the debate, said that there was growing public anxiety about the crime wave, more especially because of the great increase in burglaries from homes and of street muggings.

Anxiety was further increased beause only 38 per cent of the offences in England and Wales brought to the notice of the police had been cleared up last year, compared with 40 per cent or more in other recent years. However, more than a million cases had been cleared up in England and Wales, compared with fewer than 900,000 in 1980.

Crime had increased remorselessly over the years in spite of efforts to defeat it by having more and better equipped police. It was especially distressing that 50 per cent of offenders were under 21. Finding excuses for them would not help.

Unemployment is not an excuse (he said) and I doubt whether it is ever a major cause.

Expenditure on police forces was going up from £1,150m in 1978-79 to £2,314m in 1982-83, slightly more than double and more than taking account of inflation.

His achievements and policies were a great credit to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary. He had not been responsible for last year's increase in crime.

But for the measures he has taken (he said) it would have been even worse. He has gained the confidence of the police and their morale is high.

The police deserved and needed the full support of Parliament and people all the time. There were those on the extreme left who wanted to destroy society and one of the principal methods was by breaking the morale of the police. As Mr Pat Wall had said plainly and publicly, they would like to get rid of all judges and police. But that would not put the country right.

Everyone else had a strong interest in encouraging the police. Their establishments should be reviewed, as a high priority. That had last been done some years ago.

All local police committees should support their forces without interfering with their operational methods. The police were professionals and experienced and it as not for amateurs, even democratically elected ones, to attempt to dictate to them.

There were people who felt like forming vigilantes but they should be discouraged. However, under common law, everyone had a duty to help the police when asked. If people wanted to give active help, they should apply to become special constables.

The great silent majority could help by bringing up their children decently with love and firmness which were interdependent. They could not have one without the other. Parents should set an example of sober good behaviour.

Teachers also had a part to play. They could encourage the police to give talks in schools and that might lead to better understanding and cooperation from the children.

We have a Home Secretary (he said) who is doing what he can and so are the police. Now it is up to the rest of us.

Lord Elystan Morgan (Lab), for the Opposition, said that the police had a wide-ranging duty, to enable society to indulge in its normal peaceful occupations. Suppression and control of crime was an important part, but only one part of that comprehensive duty.

It was fallacious to suggest that there was a racialist basis for crime, but that was the impression given and, it seemed, carefully fostered by the publication by the Metropolitan Police a week or so ago of the analysis of figures for robbery and other violent crime broken down on a colour basis.

As an analysis it was wholly misleading. Whether or not it was calculated to poison race relations, it ran a high danger of doing so.

To be accountable to the public, the police must be answerable to elected people who were themselves in turn responsive to public feeling. Against such principles, the remarks of Mr James Anderton, the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, and his proposal that elected members should be abolished from police authorities and replaced by people appointed bureaucratically, should be looked at with great trepidation.

All the statistics were against the argument that the reintroduction of capital punishment would save human life to any degree.

He was shocked by the statement made by Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, last week that she saw no correlation between a high level of crime and the highest level of unemployment the community had suffered for the last 50 years.

Did she expect that millions of homes could be visited by the plight of actual or threatened unemployment with all the frustration and desperation that this entailed without spawning the conditions for added crime?

Governments, often to the right, were often tempted to lash the public into frothy fury over fears for law and order. Such a ploy could be a powerful distraction from failure in economic and social policies.

Lord Wigoder (L) said there were far too many people in public life who openly said that the law was there to be defied if it pleased them to do so. He was deeply perturbed at that development in recent times and the way in which those people were being sheltered inside the ranks of the Labour Party instead of being driven out into the wilderness where they belonged.

To be strengthened, the police had to be integrated into the community. It was necessary to cease to treat them as a separate part of society and to try to get them appreciated by everyone as friends, as people upon whom it was possible to rely and with whom it was possible to be willing to cooperate.

Steps must be taken to encourage the ethnic minorities to have their representatives in the police force.

Clearly the police must be accountable to someone. It was an interesting argument as to whether the Metropolitan Police should be responsible directly to the Home Secretary or not, but he hoped the House would agree, whoever they were to be responsible to, perhaps Mr Livingstone would not be an ideal choice.

He did not believe that the severity of punishment in itself, let alone the brutality of punishment in itself, was a deterrent in more than a minute number of cases. He knew of few people who had come out of prison any better than they went into it. The value of a prison sentence was quite simply that so long as a person was in prison he was not going to commit further offences.

Lord Belstead, Under Secretary of State, Home Office said the number of robberies recorded in 1981 rose disturbingly, by about one third in comparison with the previous year. In view of the public concern about robbery and theft it was better, in the Government's view, for problems to be discussed in terms of as many facts as possible rather than entirely on the grounds of rumour.

The Government had done so in the recent study on racial attacks. It was not going to turn round and criticize the Metropolitan Police for doing very much the same thing. They needed to know as much as possible about crime. People of all races in the community needed to be informed about crime.

Home Office officials were engaged in a series of visits to selected police force areas outside London to see how police and community liaison could operate inside and outside London in future. The Government were considering, following the riots of last summer, the need for public order legislation, and were consulting on this.

One could not and must not look to the police alone to solve the problems. That was why the Home Secretary would take further action across the board on the criminal justice system.

The Government was seeking to modernize and clarify the law. In the Criminal Justice Bill, additional powers were provided for the courts to deal with crime. In prisons, the Government had started to reverse the slide in capacity because of years of neglect and giving a priority to building.

Beyond that, positive action from those outside the criminal justice system and from the community as a whole was needed, with the ability to look at things afresh while retaining confidence in the institutions.

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, in a maiden speech, said that statistics were mostly misleading and largely unintelligible. The police could only operate with the consent and active help of law-abiding citizens.

What could destroy the efficacy of the police more quickly than anything was the undermining of their authority by those who should know better.

Judges were a popular target for all sorts of people. They were an attractive target because they made good copy and seldom had an opportunity to answer back.

With the past few days, judges had been heavily and almost hysterically criticized for passing too lenient sentences and also for passing too severe sentences. It was impossible for judges to be right.

They were trying to reduce prison sentences. It had become apparent that prison never did anyone any good. Judges needed no encouragement to realize that the shorter a sentence could be, the better.

There was a limit to what judges could do. Certain criminals had to be met with prison and certain crimes with substantial prison sentences, partially to deter others, and partly to prevent the citizen taking the law into his own hands.

It is not open to the courts (he said) and it would be a dereliction of their duty if they were start treating recidivist young burglars with kid gloves.

They had to be sent to prison if only because while there they were not terrorizing householders and stealing their goods.

He wished to explode the myth which had gained currency in the media recently, that judges had thwarted the Home Office liberal penal proposals by threatening to increase prison sentences in retaliation against the proposals.

A judge would have been in a hopeless dilemma in many cases with sentences which he knew would only result in a third of the time being spent in prison. He was not to have been given the oportunity of not applying the new type of sentence.

It was necessary to give judges an opportunity of non-applying the automatic reduction of a sentence.

By the time the criminal falls into the hands of the police, and particularly by the time he reaches court (he said), it is too late. The damage has been done. The remedy, if it can be found, must be sought a great deal earlier.

All the old sanctions had gone: the parental, the religious, the social, the financial and the employment sanction. It was now bad psychology for anyone to have a bad conscience or a guilty conscience, but nothing had been found to replace it.

Apart from those disincentives which had gone, they were faced with incentives to commit crime in the shape of violence depicted on screens of all sizes.

Acquisitiveness and greed were depicted and religiously imitated by the youngsters who formed such a large part of the statistics.

One would only have to sit a short time in his court in the Strand to realize the imitative effect of the huge increase in the sale of pornography. Beause of the rarification and recondite type of sexual behaviour which now accompanied crime, crime was almost inevitable.

It is traceable to glossy imports which come into the country (he said), disguised as Danish bacon or Dutch tomatoes, in large quantities which percolate through various shops to find their way into the hands of young people with inevitable serious results which we see increasing every day.

Those are the areas where the attack should be levelled, rather than too late, at the time when these young people arrive in court or in the hands of the police.



Renton: Unemployment is not an excuse

Lord Hunt (SDP) former chairman of the Parole Board, said that the statistics, out of context and without full analysis, blazoned as headlines in certain sections of the media, were likely to sway public opinion against support of Lord Scarman's recommendations and towards the passing of amendments to the Criminal Justice Bill against the public interest.

They were faced with a cause for serious concern, but there was no reason for surprise because it had been going on for so long.

Even *The Times* on March 8 had, for *The Times*, a sensational headline: "56 crimes an hour in London". In the second paragraph it had been explained that 53 of the crimes were of breaking and entering and other offences. Only three of the 56 related to violence against the person.

He did not seek to condone any degree of violence, but merely suggested the importance of retaining a correct perspective and of holding a sense of proportion about the degree of violence and its geographical spread.

He had been burgled three times in three years and lost every piece of inscribed silver of purely sentimental value which he possessed.



Lane: Impossible to be right.



Scarman: Report was right.

So long as western society was prepared to tolerate economic and social disadvantage and failed to win the respect of the young generation to the extent that it did, it must be prepared to expect quite a high percentage of crime.

Cowardly attacks must attract severe penalties, but even in crimes such as this, there should be a constructive element. There should be an experiment in facing the assailant up to his victim with a view to his feeling some shame, making an apology or making some reparation.

Not least among those who deserved support was the Home Secretary himself. Mr Whitelaw had been under intense pressure to change course and he should not be deviated or deterred from the pursuit of policies that he had been following hitherto. To the extent that he held to those policies he had the total support of the Social Democratic bench.

Lord Boyd-Carpenter (C) said he disagreed with Lord Elystan-Morgan's criticism of the statement by the Metropolitan Police which included the number of the ethnic minorities who had committed certain offences. It was a mistake in matters of this sort to conceal anything. If the Metropolitan Police were in possession of facts that might be relevant to the debate in the community, they would be at fault if they supressed them.

As for capital punishment, it remained his judgment that on balance it was better that the guilty rather than the innocent should suffer.

Terrorists were never greatly impressed by long prison sentences because of the alleviations open to them. If the penalty, on the other hand, was a speedy death this would be a considerable deterrent.

This was almost the ideal subject for a referendum but it could not be binding either on peers or MPs. Members would be entirely free to vote for their conscience, but they would know what the public wanted.

Lord Gardiner, the former Lord Chancellor, said that he had recommended to Scotland Yard the use of a computer, but if he had known the use that would be made of it, he would never have made that recommendatiom. People expected personal information to remain confidential. The Home Office supplied confidential, personal information to several other departments.

The recent action of the police on capital punishment had been inadvised. He doubted whether the police were really wise to spend a lot of money hoping that half-page advertisements would change public opinion on a political question. The police had not given statistics on homicides, which had fallen to the lowest level in seven years.

Lord Scarman, who constructed last year's inquiry into the Brixton riots, said he was delighted that, by and large, the analysis he had attempted of the problem of law and order in Brixton and eleswhere was accepted in the debate by the minister and others and that there was a broad intention to implement the recommendations.

He stood by his report. He had not yet learnt anything of subsequent experience which would indicate to him that any of its recommendations were wrong or its analysis faulty.

The need to strengthen and support the police was imperative. There was an occasion in Brixton on the Saturday when a few unreinforced police, many of them young, under local and courageous leadership, had stood between the inner city of London and total collapse, no doubt limited in area, of law and order.

That was an indication of the need for a strong and well supported police force.

If that thin blue line had been overwhelmed (he said), and it nearly was on that Saturday night, there is no other way of dealing with it except the awful ultimate requirement of calling the Army.

To turn the military inwards on British people is not something which our tolerant and free society can possibly accept.

In retrospect the greatest disaster in the Northern Ireland situation had not been when the Army went into the Bogside in the late summer of 1969 but when the RUC had come out and stayed out for years.

There was a model there. Unless the police were not only strong but well supported by the people, they might find themselves in that sort of sutuation which was the beginning of the end of liberty and a tolerant society. It might be the beginning of the end of very much more.

Training boards face axe

The Government intends to lay the statutory instruments to abolish 16 training boards in two batches — the first probably in May and the second in June, Mr Peter Morrison, Under Secretary of State for Employment, said in a written reply.

The first batch is likely to cover the boards for air transport and travel, carpet, chemical and allied products, footwear, leather and fur skin, iron and steel, knitting lace and net, man-made fibres, road transport, and wool, jute and flax.

The timetable depends on the employer organisations setting up alternative, non-statutory training arrangements, he said.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30). Questions: Northern Ireland; Prime Minister. Debate on law and order. Lords (3): Travel Concessions (London) Bill, third reading. Dissemination of Pornography Bill, second reading.

Lord Cayzer, formerly Sir Nicholas Cayzer, chairman of the British and Commonwealth Shipping Company Limited, was introduced.

Japan pressed to lift trade barriers

EUROPE

Mr Humphrey Atkins, Lord Privy Seal, reporting on the meeting of foreign ministers of the European Community held in Brussels on Monday and Tuesday, said that they endorsedthe view that relations wih Japan remained a serious concern. They agreed, he said, a comprehensive approach to the problems. This included efforts to persuade Japan to modify its trade and economic policies, a renewed call for tangible assurances of effective moderation of Japanese exports in sensitive sectors and an agreement that the Community should initiate discussions with Japan about her low level of imports.

The whole of Tuesday was taken up with discussion of the May 30 mandate and in particular the problem of Britain's budget contribution.

The Presidents of the Commission and the Council (he went on) put forward on a personal basis some new ideas on a method of dealing with the budget problems. These were greeted with real interest by ministers of the member states who agreed not to discuss them further at a special meeting of foreign ministers to be held on Saturday, April 3.

Mr Eric Heffer, chief Opposition spokesman on European and Community affairs (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said it would be useful if the Lord Privy seal could read into the record what was on the front page of *The Times* which seems to be better informed than MPs on these matters.

It is time (he added) that we had some idea what is precisely being proposed on the budget.

The danger is that we are going to have a situation where we could end up with a shoddy deal which would involve another retreat and possibly a sell-out on the Government's part.

We have read in some newspapers that the Irish Foreign Minister has said that Lord Carrington, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, accepted that there would be no linkage between farm prices and the budget. We have also been told that the Secretary of State did not accept this. I would like to know the answer.

It would be wrong if we had a situation where there was an agreement on the budget—possibly a shoddy deal—and at the same time an increase in prices at the farm gate which are going to put up prices of food for the British people in a big way.

Mr Atkins: Mr Heffer has quoted from a number of newspapers. He knows by now not to believe everything he reads in the newspapers. If he does not, he should.

The discussions going on about agricultural policy and the budget reform are going forward together and will go forward in parallel as everyone has agreed. They are linked in that way.

Sir Peter Emery (Honiton, C): For many years now the foreign ministers have been expressing at their Brussels meetings concern about trade and expansion of Japan and about the restrictions on imports into Japan. Do we not get to a stage that if we cannot get agreement to take positive action as a Community Britain ought to take unilateral action?

Mr Atkins: The Community as a body is more powerful than this country alone. I believe that is the right course of action to take under Article 23 of the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade to persuade the Japanese to liberalize her own import policy and economic policy.

Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Evonport, SDP): On Japan, the time has come to set a deadline. These discussions have gone on for many years. The import restrictions are very damaging to trade. The export penetration in certain key undustries is extremely damaging for many European countries.

We fully suport the Government's determination to get a fair deal for Britain on the budget and its determination to link the budget contribution to the reform of the CAP.

Mr Atkins: On Japan, I believe the move the Community is now taking is the most useful course we can adopt. There is no set timetable for this procedure. We intend to proceed with it as quickly as we can.

Mr Kenneth Lewis (Stamford and Rutland, C): Every time he makes a statement of this kind there is something in about discussions with Japan. We seem to make no progress on this.

How many more businesses are going to go in this country and Europe because of penetration from Japan and because the Japanese will not allow imports into that country? When is this country or Europe going to take some action?

Mr Atkins: It is. That is why I was glad to be able to tell the House that we are taking the action I have described because it is necessary we should exert the maximum pressure on Japan to liberalise its trading policies, which is what we all want.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea North, Lab): What will be the United Kingdom's net contribution to the Community budget in 1982-83?

Mr Atkins: as yet, this is not determined. Our contribution for last year was £56m.

A new dimension to the word complexity

LEGAL

The Civil Jurisdiction and Judgmnts Bill, which regulates the international aspects of the jurisdiction of civil courts and how their judgments might be enforced, had a simple objective but it had been described as giving a new dimension to the word complexity Sir Ian Percival, Solicitor General, said in moving the second reading of the Bill.

The Bill, which has been through the House of Lords, gives effect in the United Kingdom to the 1969 Convention on jurisdiction and the enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters, establishing uniform rules of civil jurisdiction for for courts in member states of the EEC.

In the event of the United Kingdom withdrawing from the EEC, the Bill would require revision because of references made to contracting states and the 1969 Convention among other things. But there was no reason why the UK should not be able to enter into the same agreements with these countries whether a member of the Community or not.

Percival: useful measure of law reform

As well as ratifying the 1969 Convention, the Bill rationalized some provisions of the law, would introduce much needed elements of certainty into some areas and would strengthen the machinery available for redressing civil rights. While it would be mainly of interest to lawyers, it was a useful measure of law reform.

Mr Peter Archer, chief Opposition spokesman on legal affairs (Warley, West, Lab), said Labour supported the Bill.

It sought to deal with the petty, chauvinistic jealousies which in the past had led to conflict on jurisdiction and, even worse, to the inability to enforce in one country a judgment given in another jurisdiction.

In a world which claimed to be civilized nobody should be able to evade obligations, which the courts had found he owed, by slinking off to another country.

The Bill was a good example of the need to make law enforcement a subject of international cooperation.

It was better for litigants to be clear which court had jurisdiction rather than to have a bazaar of national courts competing for jurisdiction, holding a Dutch auction to attract plaintiffs. This was another reason to welcome the Bill.

Individuals in Britain might be involved in litigation abroad. The Bill gave the Lord Chancellor and the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Northern Ireland power to extend existing legal aid regulations to fulfill any international obligations undertaken by the United Kingdom and in relation to the enforcement of judgments. But there was a case for looking at the whole problem for any purpose connected with seeking redress.

Mr Alexander Pollock (Moray and Nairn, C) said in the past there had frequently been problems of enforcement of maintenance provisions where foreign husbands had deserted their Scottish wives.

Curiously such cases increased significantly in recent years not least because of the increase in the popularity of package holidays to the Continent.

Many Scottish families had found their daughters' hearts captured by red-blooded foreign males. Unfortunately, when they returned to Scotland with their new Scottish wives they found the place too cold for their liking. They then left their wives with inadequate financial resources.

It would appear owing to the provisions in this Bill it would be much easier for such deserted wives in Scotland now to secure proper maintenance.

Mr Peter Fraser, Solicitor General for Scotland, said although this involved a complicated set of measures to sort out how jurisdiction was to be established in the Scottish courts, it was simpler than it appeared from a reading of the schedules and parts of the convention included in the Bill. In principle, the new rules would apply to all civil proceedings before the Scottish courts.

The Bill was read a second time.

Government seeking agreement on change

LORD'S REFORM

Every peer would view it as appalling if the House of Lords was to be abolished, and this view was shared by many people outside Parliament, Lady Young, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, said to cheers when answering questions about House of Lords reform.

She advised peers to persuade their colleagues in the Commons of this view. The Government would continue, she said, to search for changes in the House of Lords which would be widely acceptable to the parties, but such changes could only proceed on the basis of all-party talks which in turn must depend upon some measure of agreement on the type of reform which might take place, and at present there was no sign of this agreement.

Lord Shinwell (Ind Lab) who had asked what further consideration the Government had given to the subject, said that was a somewhat unsatisfactory answer. Did the Government not realize that the absence of some indication or suggestion of reform of the House of Lords, only served tostrengthen the attitude of those who sought to abolish this House?

If, at the next election, events take a certain direction (he said), there might be an immediate demand for the abolition of this House. Is there any reason why both Houses of Parliament should not begin to discuss, even in a temporary and perhaps potential fashion, what kind of reform is required for the House of Lords?

Lady Young: Reform to the House of Lords can only proceed where there is a measure of agreement that reform is required and what that reform might be. At the moment there is no indication that is such agreement.

Lord Avebury (L): Whilst there may be general approval of the motion the House of Lords should continue in being, neither the Labour nor the Conservative parties wish to come to the defence of it because it would be a nuisance if proper resources were to be made available to backbenchers in this House as they are in the House of Commons to do their job properly. That is why we are kept on such short commons. (Laughter).

Lady Young: I would not accept that remark. The House of Lords does work effectively. The proof of this is the number of amendments which are made in this chamber and are accepted by governments; the number of times we have been instrumental in improvments in legislation, promoting legislation and in airing subjects of national importance. (Cheers).

Viscount St Davids (Ind): While the present stance of the Labour Party is total abolition, there is no chance of agreement between parties. In these circumstances and while it continues, the date for the very much needed reform of this House is never.

Lady Young: I cannot go beyond what I said in my original answer. What is important is that all members of this House should be talking to colleagues in the House of Commons to persuade them of this point of view.

There have been (she added later) a number of very successful reforms since the Second World War which have been of a relatively minor nature, or so they were regarded when introduced, which have altered the Housep of Lords.

Lord Jenkins of Putney (Lab): The desire to abolish the House of Lords in its present somewhat indefensible form does not necessarily indicate a devotion to single chamber government.

Lady Young: I come from a party which is committed to having a second chamber and has said so frequently. I would like Lord Jenkin's party to say the same and in such vigorous terms.

Lord Robbins (Ind): There was a close approximation to a solution a few years ago which was only defeated by an unholy alliance in the House of Commons.

Lady Young: I do not think I would describe members of the House of Commons in quite those terms, but it does illustrate the difficulties of reform because at the time there was a larage measure of agreement that there should be reform but even on the terms of that reform it was still not possible to bring it about.

Call for fines for unfair redundancies

Mr Neill Carmichael (Glasgow, Kelvingrove, Lab) successfully sought leave to bring a Bill to impose financial penalties on employers who failed to observe the legal requirements to consult about staff redundancies.

His Unfair Redundancy (Financial Penalties) Bill was formally read a first time.

He said that good employers would have nothing to fear from the proposals which sought to ensure that the obligations to consult and inform over redundancies were met.

The Bill provided for a minimum £2,000 award for each employee whose potential redundancy had not been subject to the consultation process, with an additional award of £10,000 for those employees who wished to maintain their employment but where reinstatement was not practical.

Employers had managed to avoid legal provisions by offering wages for the 30 day or 90 day period in lieu of notice. They got workers to agree to their ultimate redundancies, to accept a lump sum in lieu and left the shop stewards, staff representatives or full-time union officers without any period to put forward alternatives.

Some records of business names kept

Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Consumer Affairs, questioned about the disposal of documentation held by the defunct Registry of Business Names, and asked if he would ensure that that documentation would not be sold to private individuals or firms, said that in the case of England and Wales certain records were being selected for transfer to the Public Records Office for permanent preservation and public access.

As an alternative to destruction, and subject to the approval of the Lord Chancellor, others might be made available to the London, Birmingham and Cardiff Chambers of Commerce as being the only bodies which had been able to accept the conditions attached by the Government to the disposal of such records.

The only financial contribution to public funds to be expected would be from the waste paper value of those documents which were to be destroyed.

Because of the smaller number of registrations, the Scottish Record Office proposed to preserve and maintain public access to all documentation relating to former registrations in Scotland.

All options still open on smelter

SCOTLAND

The Government was pursuing several options for a new power contract for the Invergordon smelter, and there was no truth in the suggestion in some newspapers that one of these options had been ruled out, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, said during discussion on the impact of the Budget on the Scottish economy.

Mr Younger said that by giving priority to maintaining progress on inflation and competitiveness, the Budget would enhance economic prospects throughout the United Kingdom including Scotland, and reinforce the recovery now under way.

Increasing sctivity takes time to feed through to unemployment (he continued), although the rate of increase has fallen sharply over recent months, and in the meantime, provisions under the special measures have been greatly expanded.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline, Lab): That is just a bromide. In Scotland we are better at having by-elections in relation to economic activity than having Budgets. Has the Government made a decision on the urgently needed energy package for the smelter at Invergordon, which would be much more important for that area?

Mr Younger: Is he offering to create a by-election for us all to enjoy? It would be welcome to Conservative MPs.

Invergordon is an important point. We are pursuing several options for a new power contract for the Invergordon Smelter. There is no truth in the suggestions in some of the papers this morning that one of these options has been ruled out.

Mr David Lambie (Central Ayrshire, Lab): In spite of the reduction in unemployment, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said in the paper issued at the time of the Budget that unemployment would rise in the United Kingdom by another 300,000 this year. Unemployment levels in North Ayrshire are still around 25 per cent.

Mr Younger: I cannot agree with him that a fall in the seasonally rate of unemployment is a matter for depression or regret. It is a matter for satisfaction that some movement is taking place in the right direction.

Mr Bruce Millan, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland (Glasgow, Craigton, Lab): Reverting to the question of Invergordon, today's newspapers are full of detailed points on how a proposal for a new power contract has been turned down by the Government.

Will he repeat the statement he made last week at Hillhead that he was confident that the smelter will reopen? If he will not, the statement is a cynical attempt to con the electors of Hillhead.

Mr Younger: I am glad to repeat what I said last week in Hillhead. There are reports in some papers purporting to be an account of discussions. I can only say that they are wholly inaccurate.

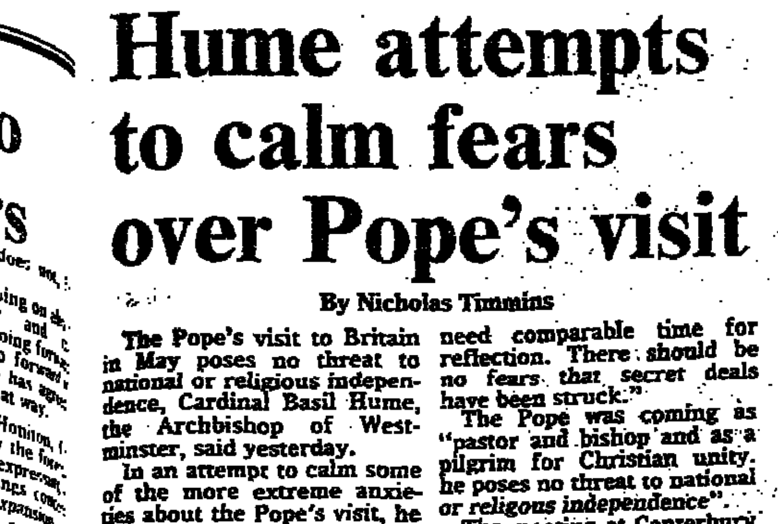
Mr Millan: When are we going to get an announcement about the reopening of Invergordon?

Mr Younger: That is another question. (Labour protests) I do not have an immediate date in mind for that, but we are making progress towards the first step which is to establish the basis for a new power contract.

It will then be necessary to enter into negotiations with the various parties that have expressed interest to see if they are prepared to operate it.

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parriers

newspapers. If he does not, ... should.
The discussions going on the agricultural policy and ... budget reform are going forward together and will go forward in parallel as everyone has agreed. They are linked in that way.
Sir Peter Emery (Honiton, C): For many years now the foreign ministers have been expressing in their Brussels meetings concern about trade and expansion with Japan and about the restrictions on imports into Japan. Do we ... get to a stage that if we cannot get agreement to take ... action as a Community Britain ought to take unilateral action?
Mr Atkins: The Community ... body is more powerful than ... country alone. I believe that the right course of action is ... under Article 23 of the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade to persuade the Japanese ... liberalize her own import policy and economic policy.
Dr David Owen (Plymouth Devonport, SDP): On Japan, the time has come to set a deadline. These discussions have gone on for many years. The ... restrictions are very damaging ... trade. The export penetration ... certain key industries is ... tremely damaging for ... European countries.
We fully support the Government's determination to get a ... deal for Britain on the budget and its determination to ... budget contribution ... reform of the CAP.
Mr Atkins: On Japan, I believe the more the Community is ... taking is the most useful ... we can adopt. There is no ... timetable for this procedure ... intend to proceed with ... quickly as we can.



Hume attempts to calm fears over Pope's visit

By Nicholas Timmins

The Pope's visit to Britain in May poses no threat to national or religious independence, Cardinal Basil Hume, the Archbishop of Westminster, said yesterday.

In an attempt to calm some of the more extreme anxieties about the Pope's visit, he told the Free Church Federal Council at its congress in Newcastle upon Tyne that he wanted to "allay some of the exaggerated fears and expectations which seem to be developing around this papal visit".

The Pope's visit to Canterbury would provide a new impetus to the ecumenical movement, he said, but it would "be wildly unrealistic to expect the presence of the Pope among us to be the occasion for solving our ecumenical problems. His coming is only part of a process, a long, patient growing together, which does not admit of instant solutions."

Even with the publication next week of the Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission's report on future relations between the churches, debate about its conclusions is likely to occupy the rest of the decade.

"Only in 1988 can the next Lambeth Conference give it due consideration. The Roman Catholic Church will need comparable time for reflection. There should be no fears that secret deals have been struck."

The Pope was coming as "pastor and bishop and as a pilgrim for Christian unity. he poses no threat to national or religous independence".

The meeting at Canterbury would be richly significant and his presence there was itself an important step towards closer unity. But "it is unrealistic to expect that at Canterbury the Pope will resolve all the difficulties that stand in the way of a visible organic communion between ourselves and the Anglican communion".

It would, however, provide new impetus. The Pope is also to meet certain leaders of the churches from the British Council of Churches that day, Cardinal Hume said.

☐ Delegates to the federal council declared their opposition to the return of capital punishment and urged action to reduce overcrowding in Britain's prisons (Our Newcastle Correspondent writes).

They were told by the Rev Peter Timms, a former prison governor, that society was developing a "punitive obsession". Mr Timms, a Methodist minister from London, said: "This is not the time for hysterical argument but for a carefully thought out response.



One of 36 trees being prepared for removal yesterday from Bellahouston Park, Glasgow, to facilitate better viewing for the Pope's visit in June. It is hoped that the trees will be replanted in the autumn.

First 'off the peg' hospital sets the trend

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

A new concept in hospital design was unveiled yesterday when London's first "off-the-peg" hospital was shown to the press.

The hospital, at Newham, east London, is based ona standard design from the Department of Health and Social Security, called the nucleus design, which is geared to cheap building costs, low running expenses and flexibility. The basic design is provided by the department for use by health authorities around the country.

It is estimated to cost a third less a sq ft to build than the highly expensive developments of the late 1960s and 1970s, such as the Royal Free Hospital and St Thomas's Hospital, London.

The basis of the design is a long, central corridor, with a series of cruciforms extending from either side, which can be built on to at a later date; hence its name, nucleus.

The basic "nucleus" is for 300 beds, getting away from the monolithic 800 to 1,000-bed hospitals, which sometimes took 15 years to build.

Newham Hospital, which cost £6m at 1975 prices, or about £20m today, is part of the Nort East Thames Regional Health Authority's attempt to replace the crumbling fabric of London's East End hospitals. Seventy per cent of those were built before 1920.

The Queen yesterdaty opened the Alexandra wing of the London Hospital, Whitechapel, east London, which cost £9m to build

High fares worry most travellers

By Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent

More people are dissatisfied with fares than with any other aspect of public transport, according to a survey by the National Consumer Council (NCC) published today. Of 2,000 who thought fares unreasonable, 51 per cent were bus users, 50 per cent train, 45 per cent Underground, 30 per cent taxi and 20 per cent air. But only 12 per cent were coach users.

Hardly anyone complained, because they thought it a waste of time. Either there was no one to complain to, or the complaint would be ignored, they thought.

After fares, complaints diverged sharply. Bus users were concerned most about lack of frequencty, train users by dirt and discomfort, air travellers by delays and cancellations, underground by overcrowding. Here is a sample of users' comments:

Buses: "There aren't enough buses or staff. It causes chaos and starts arguments and fighting at the bus stops."

"You get people queueing for ages. It's usually at least 25 minutes. I wait and feel glad I don't use a bus every day."

"We complained and the buses improved for a while, then got back to not turning up again. They're just not interested."

Trains: "The trains are not cleaned and cups and pieces of paper are lying all over the place."

"The trains are appallingly filthy. The last time my husband went on a train he got some brown, gluey stuff on his suit and had to come home."

"Young hooligans spray stuff on seats and write with lipstick."

"If it wasn't more pleasant I wouldn't bother going by car. But they're so dirty."

"The other week I was in the station and it was extremely crowded. It frightened me, because a man ran down the stairs and pushed me into the wall." "It's not acceptable, with all the visitors to London. In the evening, if I'm in a hurry, it's very, very jammed. You just have to put up with it".

"To many people couldn't get in or out when it came to my station and had to stay on and return the other way."

Train users also comlained about dirty, bleak staions, poor lavatories queues and inadequate car parking.

The report is to be considered at this year's Consumer Congress opening at a Surrey University tomorrow and will set the scene for an effort by the NCC to develop a "coherent, practical transport policy for consumers" in the coming year.

Public Transport. (National Consumer Council, 18 Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AA, £1).

Change urged in right to divorce payment

By Frances Gibb

The abolition of a former wife's permanent right to receive maintenance payments from her divorced husband is called for in a paper published by the Bow Group yesterday.

The paper, a survey of divorce law since the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1973, says there will need to be exceptions to the rule, but "in the overwhelming number of cases the time has now come to exclude an ex-wife's permanent right to maintenance".

A woman's right to claim maintenance while her former husband lives, often for many years, must conflict with the concept of the equality of the sexes, the paper says.

"In any case it should be remembered that the average time for remarriage of both spouses after divorce is only in the region of four and a half years. The right to maintenance ceases on remarriage."

With the wife's right to maintenance excluded, the paper says the courts should be more ready to divide the family assets between the spouses, and certainly once any children are grown up. At present the difficulty of recovering orders for maintenance is often immense. "The places unfair burdens on the preoccupied and financially vulnerable mother".

The paper, written by Mr Paul Rippon, a solicitor specializing in family law, and representing his personal views, also argues or several other changes to present divorce law.

They include removing considerations of marital misconduct from the determination of financial settlements. The cause of a broken marriage lies deep in the personalities of the parties, he says, and it is difficult to determine where respoibility lies.

On the grounds for divorce, Mr Rippon recommends that the law be amended so that the court should hold the marriage to have broken down irretrievably if the petitioner satisfies the court that after the marriage breakdown the parties have lived apart for a continuous period of a year.

There should be an end to the "matrimonial offence" requirement, under which a court must be satisfied as to one of five circumstances adultery; unreasonable behaviour; desertion; living apart for two years with consent to a divorce; or living apart for five years.

Picking up the Pieces (Bow Group, 240 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7DT, £2.00.

CHURCHES' PLEA FOR HOMELESS

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Four of Britain's main churches join today in demanding urgent government action to help single homeless people. They say rising unemployment and severe cuts in housing investment have produced a "genuine crisis" for thousands of citizens who are both single and homeless.

The churches, in a statement responding to the Government's recent report, *Single and Homeless*, are calling for extension of the right to secure accommodation in the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act to the single homeless, and for more investment in council housing programmes.

"We would remind the Secretary of State for the Environment that any Government that cuts housing investment deeply will pauperize many of its citizens, whatever else it may achieve", the statement says. "The Government must increase resources to local authorities, particularly those in inner city areas".

The four churches, the Church of England Board for Social Responsibility, the Methodist Church Division of Social Responsibility, the Church and Society Department of the United Reformed Church and the Catholic Housing Aid Society also want the repeal of the "intentionally homeless" provisions of the Act.

SITE PLANS INQUIRY DUE TO END

By John Young

The public inquiry into two rival schemes for the redevelopment of the so-called Coin Street site, on London's South Bank, is expected to end today.

The two schemes were submitted by Greycoat Commercial Estates and by the Association of Waterloo Groups, a loose federation of residents' associations, who contended that the Greycoat project, was too large and ignored local needs.

The site, which stretches eastward from the National Theatre towards Blackfriars Bridge, is regarded as one of the most important in London.

It was the subject of an earlier inquiry in 1979. The protagonists then were two residents' groups, the Heron Corporation and Commercial Properties Ltd. After Heron withdrew, Greycoat intervened, but in July, 1980, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, rejected all the plans.

The new inquiry officially opened on April 7 last but was adjourned after demonstrators, incensed by the decision of the Conservative-controlled Greater London Council at the time to sell its holdings on the site to Greycoat, shouted down the inspector, Mr Victor Radmore, who postponed the inquiry until after the GLC elections.

The inquiry finally reopened on September 8.

Rape questions 'justified'

From Our Correspondent, Norwich

Norfolk police officers accused of questioning a rape victim "like a common criminal" did their job correctly, the Police Complaints Board has decided.

That was revealed yesterday after the father of a Thetford girl, whose case attracted nationwide publicity when the man convicted of raping her was fined £2,000 at Ipswich Crown Court and not sent to prison, made the allegation.

He made it shortly after watching a television documentary on Thames Valley Police's handling of a rape complaint, which also attracted widespread criticism.

At the time the girl's father alleged that "policemen are trained to pick and harass to establish the truth".

Mr George Charlton, Chief Constable of Norfolk, immediately ordered an internal investigation and referred the complaint to the Police Complaints Board in London.

New Bangladesh leader helped Sattar to power

By Leslie Plommer

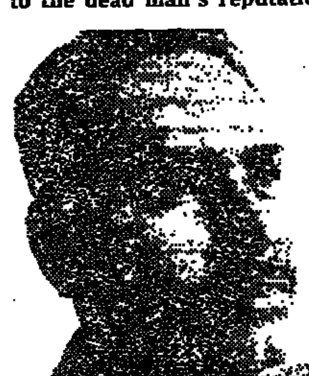
Bangladesh has been waiting week by week for a military coup, and yesterday it came. Paradoxically, Lieutenant-General Mohammad Hossain Ershad, the golfing Armmy chief who has decared himself martial law leader, acclaim as a military democrat only last May when he swore allegiance to the constitution after President Zia ur-Rahman was assassinated by Army elements.

It was General Ershad who helped Mr Abdus Sattar, the Vice-President at the time, out of his hospital bed, into his trousers and over to the President's office to take over the Administration.

A former Lieutenant-Colonel in the Pakistan Army, General Ershad rose steadily through the officer corps in independent Bangladesh and despite his high reputation among many countrymen, who looked to him as a prospective leader, often declared: "I am a soldier, not a politician".

Mr Sattar and his Bangladesh National Party went on to win power in elections barely four months ago on the shoulders of the murdered Zia who founded the party and achieved the status of a near saint in his cuntry.

They fell from power because they failed to live up to the dead man's reputation and ideals, thus providing the Army with its opening.


General Ershad: Soldier not politician

As President, the sickly and uninspiring Mr Sattar proved *unable to* unify the country or the many interest groups which Zia welded into a party and kept in check. The party slipped increasingly into the corruption which had begun to mar its last phase even under Zia, and which at last reached right into the Cabinet.

Scarcely had last November's election rhetoric died away than the cracks between President Sattar and the military began to open wide. General Ershad stepped up demands for power sharing by the military, and was rebuffed by President Sattar who said the military's job was only to defend the national sovereignty. Any other role for them was inconceivable.

General Ershad evidently had other ideas. While denying that his ambition was to become President ("Could I not have walked into the office of the President the day General Zia was killed?"), he argued that military assassinations and coup attempts would continue if the Army was pitched as a "distant bystander responsible only for defending the borders".

But in recent weeks events began to move more quickly as the Army stepped *de facto* into the political arena.

To the horror of many politicians, President Sattar *reluctantly* agreed in January *to set up* a National Security Council including service chiefs

In February, under military pressure, he dismissed the entire Cabinet, citing "neglignce, corruption, irresponsibility and self-interest" among leading figures. Corruption inquiries were ordered and a reduced Cabinet quickly formed, but Army dissatisfaction persisted.

At the same time the economy continued to founder, with international funds drying up partly because of perceived maladministration by Dacca.

In recent days rumours of at best, another govrernmentreshuffle and, at worst, a coup had become rife in Dacca

Indeed, the wonder of many observers is that it took General Ershad so long to make his move. If he hesitated, one reason may be that Bangladesh's problems seem so intractable that they may defeat even the army, which would then find itself in as much public disgrace as the politicians

☐ **Washington:** The United States Government today urged Bangladesh to return to constitutional government at the earliest opoportunity. (Nicholas Ashford writes).

In a statement issued after the coup in Dacca the state Department said it regretted that the constitutional processes which had been reintroduced by the late President Zia had been overturned.

The United States had repeatedly emphasized in recent months the importance it attached to constitutional and democaratic government and economic development in Bangladesh.

Officials said that the coup would not effect America's economic assistance programme to Bangladesh but the situation would remain under review.

☐ **Delhi:** Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao, the External Affairs Minister, told the Indian Parliament that the situation in Bangladesh appeared to be under control (Reuter reports). India considered developments there an internal matter and did not expect any adverse effect on bilateral relations.

The Press Trust of India quoted West Bengal officials as saying the authorities in Dacca had sealed three rail and road crossings on the frontier with India


Poles apart: refugees from camps in Austria disembarking from a train at Buchs, eastern Switzerland. They are the first of 1,000 who will be given asylum in Switzerland.

Pakistani teachers defy protest ban

From Trevor Fishlock Peshawar, March 24

Thousands of teachers demonstrated in the streets of Peshawar today demanding higher pay and shouting: "Zia ul-Haq talks of Islam. We talk of not having enough to eat." They were dispersed by tear gas and by police wielding *lathis* (canes).

Demonstrations are banned under the martial law regime and it is a mark of the discontent felt by teachers, and others in Pakistan, that they should defy the ban and go on the streets.

The police tried to undermine the demonstration by arresting the teachers' leaders early this morning. They also detained teachers on their way into the city, capital of the North West Frontier Province.

The authorities said that about 100 were arrested. The teachers claimed that several hundred were held, and estimated that 25,000 took part in the protest. There were demonstrations and sit-ins at six or seven different places in the city.

The teachers have attracted much public sympathy. The poorest paid earn only about £21 a month

Many state schools in Pakistan have been closed for two weeks because of a teachers' strike Last week about 20,000 demonstrated

The teachers' struggle seems to be purely an economic one, but politicians in the prohibited parties see it as evidence of increasing unrest.

New Polish journalists' union registered

Warsaw, March 24. — A new Polish journalists' trade union was legalized today to replace the National Association of Journalists whose dissolution for being too literal was announced by the martial law authorities on Saturday.

The Association of Journalists of the Polish *People's Republic* was formally registered at Warsaw's City Hall, PAP, the official news agency said. Registration confers legal status on the organization, which has publicly dissociated itself from the "irresponsible actions of part of the leadership of the former association".

Mr Stefan Bratkowski, a communist reformer and chairman of the union denounced the authorities' action as illegal when he appeared in public yesterdsay for the first time since martial law.

He told a group of Western reporters that he thought as many as 2,000 Polish journalists, about 15 per cent of the total, would lose their jobs because of their opposition to last December's military takeover.

☐ A military tribunal has sentenced Mr Franeizek Mazur, a former Solidarity member to six and a half years in porison on charges of organizing union cells in Mietec, south-west Poland and distributing leaflets "containing false informantion which could have caused public unrest

Navy sails to scrap merchants

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The Royal Navy's patrol ship HMS Endurance, was expected last night in South Georgia, the Falkland group island where a band of Argentine scrap metal entrepreneurs have made themselves more famous than Steptoe and Son.

What happened next was open to doubt, as Britain tried to secure the removal of the island's most illegal immigrants via diplomatic channels in London and Buenos Aires. But the presence of the 3,600-ton ice patrol vessel will stregthen the campaign for keeping her in the fleet, in the face of Government plans to sell her.

Between six and 10 of the 60 metal merchants who landed on South Georgia at the weekend are thought to be still there, sheltering under the Argentine flag at the disused Leith whaling station. Unconfirmed reports suggested that they were armed, because shots had been heard, and that some of the original party were military.

Buenos Aires
800 miles
ARGENTINA
SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN
Falkland Is
South Georgia

Most of the original party left, however, after protests from Britain, whose sovereignty over the Falkland Islands has long been the subject of negotiations with Argentina.

All that the Ministry of Defence would confirm yesterday was that HMS Endurance was in Falklands waters, and that she was ready to give assistance if required.

Her armaments are light but effective — two 20mm Oerlikon guns and two Wasp helicopters. Her 119-man complement includes provisions for a small detachment of marines.

Part of the ship's duties while on station in the south is to ferry marines between Port Stanley in the Falklands and Montevideo in Uraguay, which is the terminal for air transport to and from Britain.

About 40 marines are stationed on the Falklands at any one time. HMS Endurance was at Port Stanley when she was diverted to South Georgia, 800 miles to the south-east. Although the Ministry of Defence was not saying anything last night, it would be surprising if some of these marines were not on board.

The vessel was launched in Denmark in 1956, but was reinforced by Harland and Wolff when Britain bought her second-hand from a Danish company in 1967.

The Government decided after last year's Defence Review, however, that the annual £3m it cost to keep HMS Endurance afloat was an expense that the Defence Ministry could ill afford, and Endurance was put up for sale.

Letters, page 13

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Torture trial refused

Ankara. — The Ankara martial law prosecutor refused to start legal proceedings against three policemen in connexion with the alleged torture of a woman political detainee under interrogation last year (Rasit Gurdilek writes).

He ruled that apart from the claims of Miss Ayfer Arisoy, an alleged member of the leftist underground Revolutionary Road organization, there was no hard evidence to support the accusations. Recently, a Turkish Government spokesman admitted that 15 political detainees had died under torture as claimed by Amnesty International.

India criticized in hijack trial

Pietermaritzburg. — The presiding judge in the trial of 43 white alleged mercenaries charged with hijacking an Air India airliner in the Seychelles in November has criticized the Indian Government for refusing to allow the pilot and co-pilot to testify in South Africa.

But despite defence objections, Mr Justice Neville James granted a prosecution request for testimony to be taken from the pilots and the Seychelles Director of Civil Aviation before a local judge in the Seychelles capital, Victoria. The defendants, led by Colonel Mike Hoare, face four counts under anti-hijack laws carrying sentences of five to 30 years.

Fire-hit liner cuts cruises

Miami. — The SS Norway the world's largest luxury liner, will return to West Germany for dry-docking six weeks ahead of schedule, forcing cancellation of seven Caribbean cruises, officials said. Damage done last Friday in a boiler-room fire is the reason.

Cruises scheduled for this month and in April have been cancelled, affecting 12,000 booked passengers all of whom are being offered full refunds or other cruises. Launched in 1960 as the SS France, it made its debut as a "floating luxury hotel" two years ago. Electrical and mechanical breakdowns have plagued it since.

Finnish party loses leader

Helsinki. — Mr Aarne Saarinen, the chairman of Finland's divided Communist Party, announced his resignation and predicted sweeping leadership changes at an extra party congress in May. He said he expected the *deputy chairman*, Mr Tatsto Sinisalo, to resign too.

The Finnish Communist Party, has been in most Governments during the past 15 years; but its Stalinist faction has opposed this and has often voted against the Government in violation of party orders. Eleven of its 35 MPs are under suspension.

Border control to be eased

Hongkong. — Sir Murray MacLehose, the Governor of Hongkong, will sign next month, on the eve of his retirement to the House of Lords, an agreement with the Chinese authorities on joint projects to diminish the few remaining restraints on traffic across the border.

The No 1 border gate at Lowu will now remain open until 9 pm instead of 5 pm; additional road crossing links have been approved and regular ferry services will operate from Hongkong to tourist resorts on the Chinese coast.

20 years for ex-minister

Vienna.— Zhivko Popov, the former Bulgarian deputy foreign minister, has been jailed for 20 years at a corruption trial in Sofia, the Bulgarian news agency BTA reported.

Three other men convicted with him of financial irregularities and offences involving hard currency transactions received prison sentenes of 10 years, 15 years and 18 years the agency said. The sentences are not subject to appeal.

Dutch guilders for apartheid victims

The Hague.— The Netherlands has earmarked 1.9m guilders (£400,000) of aid for victims of apartheid and decolonization in southern Africa, the Development Cooperation Ministry announced. The African National Congress will receive 250,000 guilders of relief aid for South African refugees in Angola and Tanzania and the World Council of churches 550,000 guildes for its anti-racism programme.

French atom test

Wellington. — France detonated a nuclear device at its underground testing site on Mururoa atoll in the South Pacific on Sunday, according to New Zealand scientists. The explosion was rated at 15 kilotonnes.

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New Mitterrand law rebounds on the socialists

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March 24

The so-called "third ballot" of the local elections took place today in the 95 departments of metropolitan France and, as expected after its decisive victory in last Sunday's second ballot, the Opposition has cornered nearly two thirds of the presidents of the *conseills generaux*, the departmental assemblies.

In the process, the Opposition had become the main beneficiary of the Socialist Government's recent decentralization law, which has greatly extended their powers and made them heads of the local executives in place of the Napoleonic prefects.

Instead of 51 departmental assemblies it held before the last elections, the conservative Opposition now controls 58, while the left-wing majority, which held 44, has dropped to 35. As a result, the Opposition also stands to increase its control over most of the 22 regional assemblies. These are partly elected by the *conseillers genraux*.

Polling for them will take place on April 15. At present, the Opposition controls 13 presidencies of regional assemblies, while the Majority commands nine. But the left is almost certain to lose control of Burgundy, upper-Normandy, and Franche-Comte.

There was uncertainty until the very last minute as to which way some *conseils generaux* would swing, because there was a tie between right and left in five of them, and in that case, the presidency goes to the *doyen d'age*, the oldest member.

In the department of Corsica, always a law unto itself, M Pierre Predali, a Bonapartist classified as a member of the opposition, sided with the left today to everyone's surprise, and swung the vote in favour of a left-wing *conseiller géneral*, because as he explained, of the Majority's positive attitude towards the island's problems.

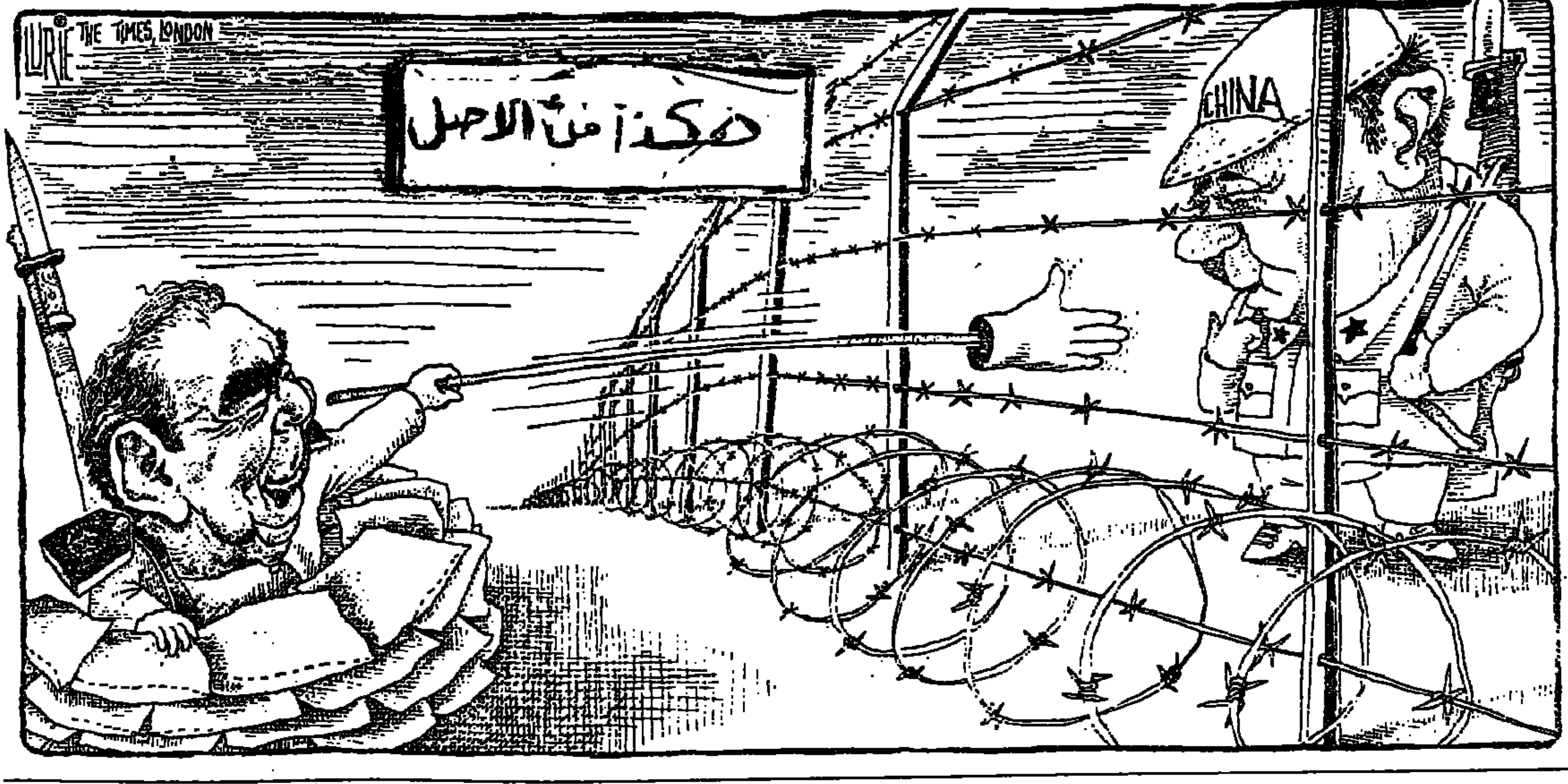
In Correze, the electoral fief of M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, where there was a tie, a Communist became President, as expected, because he was the oldest member.

The Opposition has made no bones of its intention of using its enhanced position in the departmental assemblies as a check on the administrative action of the Government at the local level. But it feared as a result of the left's setback at the polls, a waning of the socialists' enthusiasm for decentalization.

M Gaston Defferre, the Interior Minister, has, however, proved a good loser. "I shall not change any of my plans, for that is the law of democracy", he declared on television, "We did not win. The others won. They will profit more than us, in more departments than we, from the decentralization law. I regret it, but all the better for them."

In fact, the risk of the Opposition thwarting the action of the Government at the local level is small. But the electoral fall-out in terms of regional development and the distribution of economic aid is substantial, and will weigh heavily in the municipal and regional elections next year. These will almost certainly be held under a modified system of proportional representation, instead of first-pass-the-post, as at present, because President Mitterrand is committed to it, and because the results of these local elections have convinced him that PR would limit the damage to the socialists in case of a sharp swing away from the left.

Public opinion has been strangely slow to appreciate the historic significance of today's break with at least three centuries of centralization



Amnesty claimed in Tshombe hijack trial

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, March 24

The trial of Francis Bodenham accused of hijacking the aircraft which carried Moise Tshombe, the late Congolese politician, to imprisonment and death began in Palma de Mallorca today, with a demand from the prosecution for a 20-year sentence for the defendant.

Mr Tshombe's last flight began on the Spanish Mediterranean island of Ibiza on June 30, 1967, when he boarded a chartered Hawker Siddeley 125 bound for Mallorca. The aircraft landed instead in Algiers, where he was arrested. Two years later he died in an Algerian prison, it is said, from a heart attack.

The trial, before a military court, aroused considerable interest because of suspicions of international intrigue. M Bodenan, a Frenchman, aged 48, said in pre-trial newspaper interviews that he was acting as an agent of the Zaire Government at the time of the hijacking. Mr Tshombe was then living in exile in Spain, and was suspected of planning to make a third try to seize control of the diamond-rich Katanga province

The aircraft was owned by Gregory Air Service, a British company, and its pilots were Mr Trevor Coppleton and Mr David Taylor, two British men. In addition to Mr Tshombe and Mr Bodenan, the passengers included two Belgian men and a Belgian woman and two Spanish men.

M Bodenan's lawyer argued that his client should be acquitted, claiming that the hijacking occurred outside Spanish air space. He also said that if the charge is not dismissed, his client should be freed under the terms of the amnesty for political offenders granted by King Juan Carlos on October 15, 1977.

The Frenchman has been in the provincial prison at Palma since the end of 1979, after his extradition

Disease blamed on E Germans

March 24. — With 2,600 cattle, sheep and pigs in Denmark already destroyed after seven outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease, East Germany was blamed today for not giving earlier warning. The Danish Agricultural Ministry said that with earlier warning "we might have been able to limit the spread of the disease".

In East Germany travel to six north-eastern districts has been banned because of the disease.

Japanese robots create new jobs

From Peter Hazelhurst Tokyo, March 24

A big Japanese trade union has found that few workers have lost their jobs since the widespread introduction of industrial robots and automated equipment

However, a survey by the Industrial Metal Workers' Union indicates that middle-aged and elderly workers have suffered from stress when they were retrained

The survey, which examined the effects of automation in 154 companies in the steel and machine equipment sector, shows that younger workers found it easier to adjust to retraining.

Union officials also found that automation in the clerical sectors of industry has created a need for more personnel".

Automation had led to dismissal or voluntary redundancies in only four of the 154 companies. "This was achieved because, in contrast to the structure of trade unions in the West, each Japanese company has its own company union. Each worker belongs to one company union. This means that they can be retrained quickly in new jobs when new technology is introduced into industrial plants," Dr Ichiro Yoshida, a leading social scientist, said.

The survey indicates that most industrialists were able to retain workers because automation had increased productivity

14% farm price rise likely

From George Clark Strasbourg, March 24

The battle between consumer interests and Europe's farmers, who want higher prices in 1982-83 than either the EEC Commission or the Council of Ministers is prepared to accept, was transferred to the European Parliament in Strasbourg today.

As the debate on the price proposals developed it was clear that all national and party groups were split on the issue, but that a majority will vote tomorrow in favour of the Parliament's agricultural committee recommendation that the average increase should be 14 per cent.

This will be a slap in the face for the commission, which has prepared an elaborate scheme to limit the average rise to 9 per cent.

Outside the chamber there was no great demonstration of the kind seen in Paris on Tuesday. The farmers were active in a more subtle way. As each MEP and visitor arrived for the debate they were presented with a free bottle of Alsace wine and a propaganda sheet appealing to the Parliament to turn down the agricultural committee's figure and substitute a 16.3 per cent recommended increase.

The Committee of Agricultural Organizations of the EEC, which organized the wine distribution, said that European farmers' incomes had fallen by 25 per cent in the past three years.

They said the 16.3 per cent increase would be in line with the rise in average costs over the year, but MEPs from Ireland said their farmers had to meet exceptionally high costs and, using the criteria applied to French farmers, they should get a 27 per cent increase.

Sir Richard Butler, President of the National Farmers Union, who was with the European farmers giving out the free wine, said before the debate: "We absolutely support the demand for a revaluation of the green pound or in Euro currencies, if this has an adverse effect on farmers' incomes."

Spain rules out sprees on Rock

From Richard Wigg Madrid, March 24

Spain does not intend to allow its citizens to go on spending sprees after the frontier with Gibraltar, closed since 1969 reopens as scheduled on April 20.

A Foreign Ministry spokeman today denied that this was one of the themes discussed at the 30-minute meeting on the Gibraltar issue between Señor José Pérez Llorca, the Spanish Foreign Minister, and Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, in Brussels yesterday. But the spokesman indicated, the Government's intention to keep Spaniards' purchases in Gibraltar to levels considered normal by Spanish Customs officials.

"We are not going to open the frontier to make things easy for the smugglers", he said.

The two ministers discussed, the opening of high-level diplomatic talks in Sintra near Lisbon in Portugal, simultaneously with the reopening of the frontier as agreed by the Spanish and British Prime Ministers in London in January.

The Spanish authorities are worried at the prospect of Spaniards travelling to Gibraltar to buy radio sets and transistors, tape recorders, and other electronic equipment subject to high duties in Spain.

This would particularly hit Spain's own duty-free zones in the North African enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla. Madrid has been under pressure from business interests alarmed at a further threat to the future of these enclaves as well as from the political right which accused it of coming to the rescue of Gibraltar in its economic difficulties by agreeing to reopen the frontier

The ministry spokesman said that "normal" purchases of cigarettes and such items would not encounter any difficulties from the Customs, but duties would be levied on large-scale purchases.

He suggested that regulations might be relaxed after six months or a year.

China opts for cremation

From David Bonavia, Hongkong, March 24

The impending "festival of the dead" in China, when people sweep their ancestors' graves and burn paper offerings, has been pinpointed by the Communist Party as a time when feudal and superstitious customs disturb social order and must therefore be curbed.

Especially in southern China, clan feuds may turn into open fighting when there are disputes about the title to grave sites among the peasants. The authorities have issued a warning against the stoking of such feuds by clan elders, the manufacture of paper dragons and the burning of ritual paper money at the festival, known in Chinese as *Qing Ming*.

A campaign is under way in some provinces to persuade people to let themselves be cremated rather than insisting on burial.

Peasants are being urged not to waste crop-growing land by building burial mounds on it, and even to refrain from burying their dead on their private plots of land. Some officials, it is claimed, have failed to set a good example by allowing themselves to be cremated, preferring to be buried with expensive ceremonies.

In the Central Asian region of Xinjiang, ethnic Chinese settlers are exhorted to accept cremation; but the Islamic indigenous people are exempt if their relgion demands burial.

Shuttle lavatory fails: both astronauts ill

From Piers Akerman, Houston, March 24

Colonel Jack Lousma and Colonel Charles Fullerton were given an extra hour's sleep today to compensate for a strenuous day's activities yesterday but they awoke to more problems on board the space shuttle Columbia.

The most pressing and distressing problem was the failure of the shuttle's lavatory which Colonel Lousma, the mission commander, discovered soon after awakening.

In the gravity-free atmosphere of space the astronauts relieved themselves into a commode fitted with a fan which sucks the waste away from their bodies into a separator that collects solids and fluids.

The separator, known as a slinger, is driven by an electric motor which has apparently overloaded. The unit now has a slower speed but it is not capable of coping with faeces without clogging the system. If the unit cannot be repaired the astronauts will have to defacate into a bag placed into a commode and dispose of them in the shuttle's waste stowing system.

The breakdown may be related to the motion sickness the two astronauts have reported. Colonel Lousma is the most seriously affected but both men are being treated. Mr Tom Holloway, the flight director at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston, today refused to discuss the nature of the medication.

Officials of the National Aeronauics and Space Administration (Nasa) decided to substitute tomorrow's activities for those scheduled for today in order to give the astronauts a lighter work load.

Tomorrow's programme is less taxing. The main event is the insect motion experiment to be carried out for an American schoolboy, who hopes to study the ability of these moths and flies to adjust to gravity-free conditions.

The original programme planned for today includes extensive operations of the Columbia's remote-controlled manipilator arm, which was to have been used to deploy a plasma-measuring package in the atmosphere above the shuttle's cargo bay.

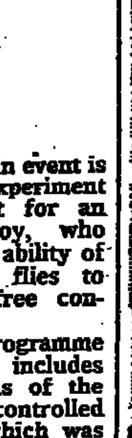
Mr Holloway said there was also a possibility of a leakage in the space shuttle's nitrogen supply during last night.

Instruments on board the space craft measured a leakage of about 20 lb but Mr Holloway said the measurement may have been caused by unusual thermal conditions or inaccurate instruments.

The astronauts slept much better last night but they again reported receiving interference on their radio circuit as they flew over Iran and China. Mr Holloway said the interference appeared to be coming into the shuttle's circuit's on the UHF frequency commonly used by aircraft.

It was speculated earlier that the interference may have come from Soviet single-side band over the horizon radar but Nasa officials now say it was definitely UHF signal.

The officials are confident that Columbia will complete a full seven-day flight during its third mission in space. "We all would like to have the spacecraft about perfect, but considering this is the third time Columbia has flown, we are doing as well as we can expect," Mr Holloway said.



Guard duty: A Guatemalan armoured car attracts a big crowd outside the presidential palace.

Guatemalan junta dissolves Congress

Guatemala City, March 24. — Guatemala's new military rulers, who took power in an apparently bloodless coup yesterday, have abolished Congress and suspended the constitution. A junta, led by Brigadier-General Efrain Rios Montt, promised to guarantee peace and security in a country where more than 4,000 are believed to have died in political violence in the past two years.

General Rios Montt also called on the guerrillas to lay down their arms, and warned "if you don't, we will take them away from you. We will shoot anyone who breaks the law". An Army spokesman said that any intended violence on their part would be "immediately and drastically repressed".

The officers staged the coup because, they said, the presidential elections less than three weeks ago were "manipulated by a corrupt minority".

General Romeo Lucas Garcia, the deposed President, had been ordered out of the country, General Rios Montt said. There was no official news about General Anibal Guevara, the President-elect, who won the March 7 elections, and was due to assume power in July. A report from the American Embassy said that Mr Frederic Chapin, the Ambassador, had talked to General Guevara, who was safe.

General Rios, Montt, who stood unsuccessfully for the Christian Democrats in the 1974 presidential election, made his first address on radio and television last night, as about 2,000 heavily armed troops surrounding the National Palace began to withdraw.—Reuter.

☐ Washington: Government officials have adopted a wait-and-see attitude to the new Guatemalan junta (Nicholas Ashford writes). They particularly want to know whether the military junta will be expanded to include civilians, what the "reforms" promised by General Rios Montt will entail, and whether social democratic and left-wing parties will be allowed to participate in the event of new elections being held.

Commenting on the coup, Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, said that it was still too early to make any substantive comment, and he was still waiting for the situation to be clarified.

However, administration officials have expressed cautious optimism, based on remarks made by General Rios Montt, that the political leanings of the coup leaders may not be as far to the right as originally feared.

General Rios Montt promised to restore authentic democracy. He said elections would be held for a new Government; but gave no date, and promised to unveil a programme of reforms soon.

The United States wants to resume aid to Guatemala because, in Mr Haig's view, it is "the next target" after El Salvador for Cuban and Nicaraguan-backed insurgents operating in Central America.

Reading the entrails of the coup

By Peter Strafford

In times gone by, a military coup in Guatemala would have been dismissed as one more manifestation of the chronic instability of a small Central American country, and would have received little attention from the outside world.

Tuesday's coup was different, however, because it took place at a time of turmoil throughout the region, and because Guatemala, the most populous of the Central American states, is seen by the Reagan Administration as playing a key role in its attempt to stem the tide of communism.

Britain is concerned, too, because of the continuing Guatemalan claim to Belize. Belize became independent last year, but some 1,400 British troops had to remain there, to deter a Guatemalan invasion. The British Government would like to be able to withdraw them.

It is not clear yet whether Tuesday's coup represents a clear change of policy in Guatemala City. Guatemala has been ruled by the milkitary for many years, and the main effect of the coup has been to replace an elder generation of army officers by the "young officers" who claimed credit for it.

For Washington, that could be either good or bad news. It would be bad if the driving force behind the coup came from the extreme right, and if it led to even more violent repression againsst the left-wing guerrillas in the countryside.

The fact that the leaders of the coup were obviously trying to appeal to members of the National Liberation Movement (MLN) suggests that this may be the case. The MLN is on the far right of Guatemalan politics, and any indication that it was in control would meke ti more difficult for the Reagan



Administration to muster support for helping the new regime.

A coup from the ritht would also ba a bad precedent for neighbouring El Salvador, where elections for a constituent assembly is due to be held on Sunday. There are frequent rumours of a right-wing coup in El Salvador, which would be a further setback for Washington.

There is, however, another interpretation of the Guatemalan coup. It is that the officers who staged it were concerned about the growing strength of the guerrillas, and took the view that it was important to repair relations with Washington, so that they could get the assistance they needed.

Relations with Washington have been cool since the days of the Carter Administration, when arms sales were cut off because of abuses of human rights in Guatemala. The Reagan Administration would like to improve relations, but the obvious fraud in the March 7 elections made this difficult.

This interpretation suggests that there is a good deal of scope for the Americans if they choose to make their influence felt by the new regime. They can insist on improvements in Government policy, and particularly an end to the repression, in exchange for the aid.



Under new management: General Efrain Rios Montt (centre), the president of the junta which seized power in Guatemala on Tuesday, announcing the dissolution of Congress. He is flanked by General Horacio Maldonado (left) and Colonel Francisco Gordillo.

Tension on West Bank

Three more Arabs killed by Israelis

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 24

Two more young Palestinians were shot dead by Israelis in the occupied West Bank today, bringing to four the number of Arabs killed since the dismissal of the El-Bireh town Council last week. Another Arab youth was killed by Israeli gunfire in the Gaza Strip.

In Today's incident with the most serious implications, a 17-year-old Palestinian named as Farhan Khadur was shot by Jewish civilians, presumed to have come from the largest West Bank settlement, Kiryat Arba. The settlement of concrete, high-rise buildings looks down upon Hebron, a cith holy to both Jews and Arabs.

An Israeli military source said that the settlers opened fire after their vehicle had been attacked by stone-throwing demonstrators from Bani Na'im, the Arab village closest to the settlement. The source said that three of the Jews had been injured in the stone-throwing, which began after Arabs had blocked the road with barricades of blazing tyres and rubble.

The official Israeli military account of the incident said that the Jewish civilians had opened fire in self defence, hitting the youth in the chest.

The killing came only 24 hours after another West bank settler, Mr Natan Natanson, was remanded by the Jerusalem magistrates court in connexion with the fatal shooting last week of another Arab teenager who was alleged to have taken part in a similar stone-throwing protest near the settlement of Shiloh. Police allege that Mr Natanson, aged 37, had committed premeditated murder.

The shootings have raised a serious question mark over the powers of the settlers, most of whom carry sub-machine guns or rifles when outside their fortified settlements.

In today's other fatal shooting, a 22-year-old Arab was killed in the occupied town of Jenin. According to Israeli officers, he was shot dead after he stabbed a member of a patrol who saw him inciting local shop keepers to close their stores in solidarity with the general strike. In a village near Rafah in the Gaza Strip a third Palestinian was shot dead by soldiers dispersing a stone-throwing crowd.

The killings took place during the sixth consecutive day of widespreaad unrest and violence throughout the occupied territories. Shortly before news of them was made public, radical Palestinian leaders called for the general strike to be extended

☐ Tel Aviv: Israeli forces thrust across their northern frontiers this morning and thwarted the first attempted overland terrorist infiltration since December, 1980, according to the military command here (Moshe Brilliant writes).

Three armed Arabs were encircled in mountainous brush and gave up without a fight, it was stated.

Military sources said the attempted incursion was a violation of the suspension of hostilities agreement of July 24 mediated by Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy.

An Israeli patrol south of the electronically monitored frontier fence, detected the figures advancing toward the border this morning north of Hanita, a kibbutz on the Mediterranean flank of the frontier. They passed through a gate in the fence to territory controlled by Israel's Lebanese allies, the militia commanded by Major Sa'ad Haddad, and set out after the men.

They traced them to their hide-out, surrounded them and called to them to surrender. The Arabs emerged carrying Kalashnikov assault rifles.

☐ Cairo: A leading adviser to President Mubarak today urged Israel to show self restraint in the West Bank to give a chance to a negotiated settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict

Mr Osama el-Baz, director of Mr Mubarak's political bureau, said Egypt was closely watching the developments and hoped they would not grow worse.

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

MX missile loses cash vote

An important Senate armed services subcommittee has unanimously recommended nearly halving the Reagan Administration's request for 1983 spending on the controversial MX missile. (Mohsin Ali writes).

The strategic and theatre nuclear forces subcommittee yesterday voted 9-0 behind closed doors to cut about $2,000m (£1.100m) from the $4,300m requested for deployment of the first nine missiles and for research and development. The sub-committee does not want to kill the MX but it is refusing to advance any more money to build MXs or prepare existing Minuteman silos to house them temporarily until President Reagan decides where he wants to put the new 10-warhead intercontinental ballistic missile.

The recommendation has to go before the Senate armed services committee

Nato rejects nuclear freeze

Colorado Springs. — Nato defence ministers held a final session of talks that have strongly reaffirmed their resistance to what they see as Soviet efforts to block the alliance's nuclear modernization.

Informed conference sources said the 13 officials, in their two days of talks, unanimously dismissed as propaganda President Brezhnev's announcement last week freezing deployment of SS-20 missiles west of the Urals.

Improved offer to islanders

The British Government has made a considerable improvement in its compensation offer to about 900 families who were evicted from the Chagos archipelago in the Indian Ocean about 17 years ago to make way for a joint British-American defence base.

A Foreign Office spokesman said that the original offer of £1.25m had been increased during current talks in Mauritius between the islanders and a small team of British negotiators. He added that the new offer did not go as far as the £8m being sought by the islanders.

Congo blast "killed 15"

Paris. — An explosion in a Brazzaville cinema at the weekend was a terrorist balst which killed 15 people and not five as officially reported, a telephone caller, claiming to be of the "Patriotic Armed Group of the Congo".

The caller said his group wanted clarification of the murder of Marien Ngouabi, former head of state, in March, 1977, and the jailing of President Joachim Yhombi Opango in 1979.

Cricket tour is likely, Gandhi says

By Our Foreign Staff

The Indian cricket tour of England is likely to go ahead this summer, Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, hinted yesterday.

Asked whether the Indian test side would be allowed to visit Britain after the imposition of a three-year ban on the "rebel" English players now in South Africa, she replied: "I don't think there will be any poblem."

Shortly before, at a press conference, she bad been more evasive, saying that the decision "is not entirely in my hands", and that the issue was "ticklish".

"Friendly African countries feel strongly about this subject," she added. Cricket, she explained with a smile was not a subject about which she knew much, having never played it herself.

Mr Gandhi, who is half-way through her British tour, accused the Western press of "double standards" in reporting on issues such as Afghanistan compared with its treatment of events in Latin America and some African countries where she said, outside intrerference weas taking place.

India did not regard the Soviet presence in Afghanistan as an invasion, as the Russians had been invited by the Afghan Government. However, she was firmly opposed to foreign interference or subversion

Later Mrs Gandhi spent more than an hour talking with 30 British intellectuals over cups of tea and coffee at Claridges. They met her in small groups and talked about a wide range of subjects. But an Indian High Commission spokesman would not disclose details saying that "It was an off-the-record occaslion."

Sir Ranulph has to go forward backwards

By Nicholas Timmins

Sir Ranulph Fiennes's Transglobe expedition to the North Pole has run into fresh trouble. It is having to go backwards to go forwards.

The expedition's London headquarters said that the mildest Arctic winter on record has left the two-man team of Sir Ranulph and Charles Burton almost marooned on an ice pan three-quarters of a mile in diameter, with open water 400 yards wide surrounding it on three sides.

To escape, the expedition is having to head 10 miles south in precisely the wrong direction, in order then to head west and eventually north-west, back towards the Pole.

Even then, its problems are far from over. The pilot of the aircraft that on Tuesday dropped supplies to the two men reported that while there looks to be solid, old ice from around 87° North, some 200 miles from the North Pole, the expedition will still have to cover some 120 miles through areas with masses of small cracks and leads in the ice before reaching it.

The expedition, currently some 325 miles from the North Pole, needs to make 15 miles a day to reach the target by April 15, the date after which the ice normally starts to break up so badly that it would be impossible

In the past week it has averaged only nine miles a day. The expedition headquarters said yesterday that the pilot, who worked out the backwards and sideways route now needed, estimated that the detour would take three to four days.

"They are going to be very pushed to make it now by April 15", a spokesman for the expedition said.

The difficulties have arisen even though the temperature has dropped back to -36°C. At that temperature the ice should freeze over, but the expedition's headquarters said that it is now moving about so much that it fails to freeze solid.

The extent of the problem can be seen in a radio message from Sir Ranulph's wife Virginia from the base camp Alert. She said: "When I look north from here I should see an expanse of unbroken ice. All I can see to the horizon from Alert is open water".

El Salvador election

Vote is rigged, candidate says

From Paul Ellman, San Salvador, March 24

A right-wing leader, who has made much of the running in El Salvador's election campaign has added further to the tension here by claiming that the results of next Sunday's election have been rigged in advance.

The accusation was levelled by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, a former Intelligence officer who heads the National Republican Alliance (Arena), at the closing meeting of his party's campaign.

The meeting was held on the eve of the second anniversary of the murder of Archbishop Oscar Romero during a mass at a convent in the capital. He was an outspoken opponent of human rights niolations in El Salvador.

A Mass to honour the memory of Mr Romero today at the cathedral was cancelled because his successor, acting Archbishop Arturo Riera Damas, said he feared a large concentration of people could provoke political violence.

Major D'Aubuisson's last meeting was held in the National Gymnasium, an auditorium which took on all the aspects of the Berlin Sportspalast beloved by the Nazis in the 1930s.

A flag-waving crowd chanted: *Patria si, communismo no*" as bands played songs in praise of Major D'Aubuisson, the *maximo lider* (the "great leader").

Wild cheers filled the building as the Major, dressed in a black windcheater and wearing the cross of a medieval crusading knights' order arrived on the podium.

His speech was the by now a familiar tirade against the Christian Democratic Party whose leader, Señor José Napoleon Darte, heads the junta of civilian and military figures which rules El Salvador.

Major D'Aubuisson alleged that the Christian Democrats were in reality stalking horses for the left-wing guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti national liberation movement, who have vowed to disrupt Sunday's election.

How much of the mud he has thrown at President Duarte has stuck will be known only when the results of the election are released.

However, Major D'Aubuisson and his party have decided to guard against the possibility of their defeat by claiming that there could be a "fraud" on Sunday to ensure that the Christian Democrats continue at the head of the Government.

It is widely recognized that a victory by anyone else but the Christian Democrats would be a setback for United States, policy in El Salvador as President Duarte is the only figure the Reagan Administration can sell to Congress, and even that with great difficulty.

Major D'Aubuisson is said to enjoy the support of a number of junior officers in the security forces. The high command, particularly General Joé Garcia, the poweful Defence Minister, is understood to be hoping for a Christian Democratic victory as this would ensure the continuing flow of United States military aid.

An added embarrassment facing the United States in the event of a victory by Major D'Aubuisson is that he was deported from the United States last year after illegally entering

Phone tap scandal in Greece

From Mario Modiano
Athens, March 24

The public prosecutor of Athens has ordered an investigationinto the tapping of a classified telephone in the home Vice-Admiral Odyseas Kapetos who just resigned as naval chief of staff after a dispute with the Government over senior Navy appointments.

The case took on strong political overtones as sthe security men traced the tapping to the vacant flat of a conservative former deputy who once lived across the street from the Admiral.

The pro-government press has described the affair as a "Greek Watergate", but Mr Evanghelos Averopp, the leader of the conservative opposition, rejedted the insinuations as a ploy to mislead the official inquiry. "This is an issue of national charaacter," he said.

The top security telephone was installed inthe Admiral's flat shortly after the Socialist Government appointed him chief of the Greek naval staff in January.

The tapping was discovered five weeks ago, but nothing was said. Security experts found a twin line leading to the rented flat of Mr George Papadopoulos, a New Democracy former MP who, after his defeat in last October's election, no longer resides in Athens.

Although a discreet inquiry was set up, news of the affair was leaked in the conservative press yesterday, just as Admiral Kapetos's resignation was accepted by the Government.

The Admiral had clashed violently with the Government after it refused to reatify reassignment of senior naval officers approved by the Supreme Naval Council under his chairmanship.

Sources said the Government particularly insisted on naming a naval officer to the sensitive post of director of naval personnel. The council had rejected it probably because the officer's father-in-law had been an extreme left wing politician.

The Government asked Admiral Anastasos Robotis, who was next in seniority, to take over as chief, but he too insisted that the council's appointments should be respected.

The Government then took the unprecedented step to purge three admirals and make way for Rear-Admiral Nikos Pappas who was promoted to vice-admiral and appointed chief of the Navy general staff yesterday.

Admiral Pappas who was captain of the destroyer Velos a the time of the abortive Navy revolt against the Greek junta in June 1973, took his ship out of a Nato manoeuvre and into Naples where he and his men obtained political asylum.

10,000 decry award to Reagan

From Christopher Thomas
New York, March 24

To everybody's astonishment, at least 10,000 people took to the streets of central New York last night to protest about a humanitarian award being presented to President Reagan at the Hilton hotel.

The participants, mostly young and peaceful, carried banners objecting to almost every aspect of Mr Reagan's economic and international policies. In particular, they were appalled that he should be regarded as humanitarian.

At the ceremony Mr Reagan insisted that the facts proved he cared about the needy. "Today I am accused by some of trying to destroy government's commitment to compassion and to the needy. Does this bother me? Yes." He said he was attempting to slow down the destructive rate of growth in taxes and spending and to prune non-essential programmes so that enough was left for the truly needy.

By the time he delivered the speech, the crowd had largely dispersed but the organizers, the Coalition to Roll Back Reaganism, were jubilajnt. They had expected no more than a few thousand protesters, but now they had high expectations for a demonstration planned for Washington on Saturday. The New York demonstration was impressive enough for Mr Reagan to depart from his prepared text. "Yes, there will at times be disagreement over the path we should take", he said. "But cannot such a dialogue be carried out with decency and understanding without a tone of hatred?".

He was presented with the Charles Evans Hughes gold medal for "courageous leadership in government, civic and humanitarian affairs" by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, which was formed in 1929 to combat bigotry, particularly anti-Roman Catholic feelings.

His presence at the $250-a-head dinner was the latest in a series of appearances around the country, apparently designed to counter the image that he lacks compassion for those hurt by budget cutbacks.

The choice of Mr Reagan as the recipient of the award caused dissension within the conference and many senior officials dissociated themselves from it. An "alternative award dinner" consisting of cheese and ketchup was organized by some of them at a university campus, near by.

President Reagan used his speech to fulfil a commitment he made in November to leaders of American Jewish organizations to speak out against anti-semitism. "The obscenity of anti-semitism and racism must have no part in the national dialogue."

Romantic crying Wolfe

From Bauhaus to Our House
By Tom Wolfe

(Cape, £6.95)

Architecture is the most inescapable of the higher arts, just as cookery is at a humbler level. One cannot live and work in the open all the time nowadays, just as one cannot subsist on nuts and berries. Tom Wolfe, continuing in this book the assault on modernism begun in *The Painted Word*, is touching a universally sensitive nerve. Ghastly painting can be avoided without too much difficulty; ghastly buildings one may find oneself living in.

Broadly speaking *From Bauhaus to our House* is set out historically. It starts with battered Europe after the First World War, defenceless before the visionaries who would cover the world with repetitious glass boxes: Gropius, Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe. Their passionate detestation of "bourgeois" comfort and ornamentation, of the cosy and the fruity, ballooned into great castles of theory and, more gradually, with the help of socialist municipalities here and there, into practice, that is to say, rectangular dwellings for reluctant workers.

Young American architects were intoxicated with this wonderful way of ignoring the wishes of clients. Henry Russell Hitchcock and Philip Johnson made it famous as the "International Style". Next, history brought Gropius, Mies, and the men of the Bauhaus to America and soon they and their spiritual progeny dominated the scene. After 1945, with prosperity and renewed building on a large scale, the new architecture began to leave its mark, most eminently perhaps at the lower end of Park Avenue, with buildings by Gordon Bunshaft from the Lever building onwards and culminating in the Seagram building of Mies.

In America the intended victims of most of the new architecture were not the workers of Mitteleuropa but the middle-class-class. As it turned out they had other ideas.

They ended up in places like Islip, Long Island, and the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles, and they bought houses with pitched roofs and shingles and clapboard siding, with no structure expressed if there was any way around it, with gas-light style front-porch lamps and mailboxes set up on lumps of stiffened chain that seemed to defy gravity — the more cute and antiquey touches the better — and they loaded these houses with "drapes" such as baffled all description and wall-to-wall carpet you could lose a shoe in, and they put barbecue pits and fishponds with concrete cherubs urinating into them on the lawn out back, and they parked the Buick Electras out front and had Evinrude cruisers out on tow trailers in the carport just beyond the breezeway.

Only the welfare people shoved into "projects" and the very rich, terrorized by doctrine, actually lived in new style buildings, but most people had to work in them.

Eventually some apostasy breaks out. Edward Durell Stone, influenced by a fiery Latin wife, puts curves and fretting into the H. Hartford Gallery at Columbus Circle and Saarinen forsakes rectangularity at the TWA terminal at Kennedy. They are anathematized. Venturi talks of disloyalty but his practice is still orthodox. Explicit purism returns with the "Whites" or New York Five. Philip Johnson, one of the old pioneers, designs a building for A.T.&T. that looks like a music stand of the time of Napoleon.

Tom Wolfe first came to notice as a dandy, revelling in his exact and detailed linguistic immersion in the antics of the newly fashionable. When he trained his particular magnifying glass on what he baptised as Radical Chic it was clear he was doing more than mocking a fashionable fatuity; this stance was closer to Juvenal than E. F. Benson. Now he has come out, for all his white suits and up-to-dateness, his generally cool self-presentation, as a nativist, a protector of culture made by Americans against servility to imports, hard-sold through the high-pressure salesman's patter of theoretical rubbish. In the book's very first sentence, which begins "O beautiful, for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain...", a Whitmanesque note is sounded which recurs plangently from time to time. What could be closer to "Song of Myself" than "Our visionary avant-gardists! Rockefellers, Goodyears, Sullivans and Blisses! O oil men, lumber men, dry-goods jobbers and wives!" Back to before 1914 is the underlying principle. It has not proved possible to keep them down on the farm, now that they've seen Paree. The old native ways are dramatized in an angry confrontation between Frank Lloyd Wright, last of the great pre-modernists, and Gropius.

Tom Wolfe's method calls for drama and personalization. This book, like its predecessor on painting, is hostile to theory and his ways with theory are perfunctory to the point of frivolousness. But his heart is in an admirable place on the whole. One would, however, need to be very deeply committed to the democratic myth to share the shock he feels at an architect's remark: "We are asked to take seriously the architectural taste of real-estate speculators, renting agents, and mortgage brokers!" Also he does tend to run together things that are not necessarily connected. The dreadful hives of much public housing are one thing; "functionalism" another. Only the fact that public housing has to be cheap and that modernist buildings can be brings them together. Modernist architecture is essentially dehumanizing; its "striated heaps" are in principle indifferent to the surroundings. But it is only accidentally tyrannous. And surely much of it is rather fine. The human can be all too human.

Anthony Quinton



The Reunion of the Soul and the Body by William Blake from Robert Blair's The Grave, edited and introduced by Robert N. Essick and Morton D. Paley (Scolar, £45), the first full publication of this important series of engravings and drawings . . .

Nor shall the conscious soul
Mistake its partner; but amidst the crowd
Singling its other half, into its arms
Shall rush, with all th' impatience of a man
That's new come home, and, having long been absent,
With haste runs over every different room,
In pain to see the whole. Thrice happy meeting!
Nor time, nor death, shall ever part them more!

Dear Old Bill

The Politics of Change
By William Rodgers

(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £7.95)

Bill Rodgers would be my candidate as leader of the SDP. He may not be as nice as Shirley Williams, as experienced as Roy Jenkins, as handsome as David Owen; but he comes with less baggage than any of them. Shirley Williams brings her own conscience, Jenkins his claret, Owen his charisma. All three, their wretched, public agonizing. But not our Bill. He is authentic, long-standing social democrat, in the Labour Party for years simply because, then, he had nowhere else to go. Ever since the 1962 Party conference when he ostentatiously sat through the standing ovation after Hugh Gaitskell's triumphant anti-Common Market speech, Rodgers has been an isolated figure (even Jenkins stood up). "Charlie, all the wrong people are cheering." Dora Gaitskell was heard to remark (to Charlie Pannell) as the applause died down. It was not just the left who were cheering: but many on the right, too. Anti-marketeers like Douglas Jay, and those like Denis Healey and Jim Callaghan for whom the EEC had never been a great issue of principle.

For Rodgers, the Common Market was, and is, a subject of his considerable passion and idealism. No single issue lies more behind the SDP split than this one. Rodgers hints at this when he writes that the "internal developments in the Labour Party in the eighteen months following its defeat in May, 1979, determined the manner and timing of the break, but they were not its root cause". Curiously, however, there is no chapter in this book about the Common Market, nor Rodgers's international vision. Nor is there a chapter on his other passion, defence, and the case for nuclear weapons. All one is left with here is a strange contrast between Rodgers's view of relations between states, and those between classes. On international conflict, Rodgers is a thorough-going hawk, on domestic conflict, a wishy-washy pacifist. "I see no prospect of converting the nations to a world in which war is not an ultimate instrument of policy," he writes, on one hand. On the other, exactly the woolly-minded, soft-headed liberalism which he finds and condemns in the Left's approach to defence he displays in his view of the domestic conflict, where his appeal is to "goodhearted and liberal-minded people". The fault in today's society lies, according to Rodgers, in different sections not understanding the other's point of view. It's the Ovaltine and digestive biscuits approach to politics which, in the end, will be the downfall of the SDP.

It is on incomes policy that this book is most revealing. There is a serious discussion about the post-war experience, and an interesting reminder that, in the late forties, it was the Bevanite left who were pushing for an incomes policy, and not the right. But where does Rodgers stand in all this? I had always thought that the SDP stood for an explicit, formal incomes policy, backed by Richard Layard's inflation tax on employers — and against Labour's approach of "national economic assessment". But Rodgers seems to take a wholly different view. The inflation tax is written off in four lines. He does not "rule out the idea" but it "does not provide a short-cut through incomes policy" (I thought that was the whole point) and "could restrict the flexibility of settlements to the disadvantage of efficient firms". Exactly. And what does Rodgers put in pride of place in his incomes policy? You may have guessed. "A joint economic assessment of the immediate and medium term prospects . . . of the country involving the TUC and the CBI". Moreover, "the policy must be based on a large measure of consent". If the SDP cannot agree about incomes policy, which is supposed to be the jewel in their crown, on what will they be able to develop a common and credible platform? It is a question Rodgers neither asks nor answers.

Jack Straw

Poetry

"The poem," says the poet, "is concerned with language on a very plain level". An unremarkable statement. But the poet saying it is John Ashbery, master of that New York school which flirts with nonsense, delights all fans of the difficult and the obscure, eschewing any kind of clear subject matter. Ashbery's friends and disciples throw words at the page much in the manner of Jackson Pollock hurling paint at a canvas, with results about as interesting as the average Rorschach test. I think it worth insisting that Ashbery himself has another dimension. The content of his work may be elusive, but the structures have grown increasingly formal, even beautiful. The fifty poems collected in Shadow Train (Carcanet, £3.25) are each of them sixteen-lines long, governed by immediately distinctive and memorable rhythms, and above all possessed by a sense of humour which makes even their most hermetic moments agreeably modest. Ashbery has been compared with Wallace Stevens, hailed even as a "philosophical" thinker. I regard this as a serious misrepresentation of his gifts. An English reader is more likely to be reminded of Edward Lear: there is a similar manic despair informing his jokes and inventions, and the tension between that concern with language on a very plain level and the hectic refusal to come clean about whatever it is that pricks him into verse in the first place makes for some extraordinary effects, the finest of which do not preclude tenderness.

George MacBeth's Poems from Oby (Secker & Warburg, £4) shows a writer who was once as cosmopolitan as Ashbery trying to break new ground. Only one poem in the book, "Thoughts on a Box of Razors" harks back to the familiar MacBeth in his preoccupation with violence, menace, the poet as a sort of Jack the Ripper stroking his own wit as if it were a knife with which he might do unmentionably nasty things to his Muse. For the rest, the tone is domestic, the setting pastoral, and the mood rather wilfully contented. MacBeth has apparently settled down in a Norfolk rectory, allowed his imagination by concentrating on country matters, and decided that it is time to take risks by rhyming flowers with showers, and staving off melancholy with verses like this:

The blend of ecstasy and filth
In smell of drains, in robin-song,
Offers the kin of fruitful tilth
In which a poem might grow strong.

In my opinion, the tilth is not yet fruitful enough to make these poems strong, but there are sufficient successes (e.g. the excellent "To Preserve Figs") to make me hope that MacBeth will continue to cultivate his rural garden.

P. J. Kavanagh has always been a poet who seems equally at home (yet intelligently uneasy) whether in city streets or muddy ploughlands. His Selected Poems (Chatto & Windus £4.95) is a very fine book indeed, and leaves me in no doubt that the time has come for a reassessment of the reputation of this unambitious but most accomplished writer. Kavanagh (who is the son of Ted Kavanagh who wrote the scripts for "Itma") has sometimes spoiled or fudged poems of undoubted inspiration by turning aside into gags at his own expense, but his critical mind has performed a first-rate job in choosing for this volume the best things from the five books he published between 1959 and 1979. He writes well about happiness (which is rare); his love poems are never sentimental; most remarkable of all, he has the knack of turning the simplest nature note into something which goes beyond observation of the outer weather — and to do this without being portentous. Here is a complete poem, "Sun Overcast", which illustrates that last gift:

When brightness leaves the trees
they seem to fall
Backwards, deprived of shadows,
then rise again in a cool
Diminishment of waiting; solider
still. Which it is possible
Is what they mean whom death
makes audible
Beyond our ears and, I feel, as
simple.

I remember the late James Reeves praising Edmund Blunden for having a Muse with an "unpresuming Saxon grace". Kavanagh's has the same grace. She may never be fashionable, but I'd wager she has a persistence which will survive this fashion and that.

Robert Nye

In Barry Keating's crime briefs last week the notice of Flashpoint by Madeleine Duke was attached by accident to Dealer's Wheels by Steve Wilson.

Fiction

Mid-Century Men
By Arthur Hopcraft

(Hamish Hamilton, £7.95)

Tony Craddock, Concerned Journalist turned TV scriptwriter, is rising fifty and preoccupied with the "mysterious awfulness" of his hangovers. Thus doubly enfeebled, he agrees to meet Peter Franklin, a young, fashionably emaciated, investigative reporter, who claims to be preparing a series about politics on TV. But it soon becomes clear that Franklin's real objective is the destruction of Craddock's old chum Roy Llewellyn, former Labour MP, now a Home Office Minister in the Lords. Their childhood friendship continued through National Service and Roy's early political career, but they've been estranged in recent years, which convinces Franklin that Tony is the man to investigate some of the ugly rumours about the Minister.

Fascinated by the young Trot's hair-shirt radicalism, and more than a little infatuated, Craddock accepts the challenge and lumbers off up North towards T. Dan Smithland, where Llewellyn made his reputation as a political Mr Fixit two decades earlier. It turns out to be a journey back in time as well as in space, because *Mid-Century Men* is composed largely of flashbacks which illustrate the development of the two men's careers, and the flowering and eventual withering of their friendship, during the Wilson years.

Craddock becomes disillusioned as the early promise of a revolution fuelled by the white heat of technology gives way to cynical news management. The internecine struggles and the lack of any serious political purpose are too much for him to stomach, so he takes his conscience off to the Third World. Roy Llewellyn on the other hand thrives in an atmosphere uncontaminated by high ideals, and finds his talents particularly well-suited to the North East world of night-clubs and lucrative urban renewal contracts.

Twenty years on, Craddock glumly rakes through the ashes, hitting the bottle with increased vigour as he gradually realizes that his efforts to clear his former friend's reputation are going to backfire. The two men meet again, and Tony has to choose between protecting his old mentor and dancing to the new piper's tune. By this stage, the book has stopped being a straight political novel, and developed into a thriller. The dénouement brings a flurry of savage twists, and the conclusion is downbeat and sour, in keeping with the era Mr Hopcraft has been describing. But don't let that stop you reading it. *Mid-Century Men* is a rich and satisfying first novel, a resounding affirmation of Lord Acton's observation about the effect of power.

Delightful though it is to welcome a talented newcomer, there is a lot to be said for old favourites, especially when they're on song, as Stanley Middleton is in Blind Understanding (Hutchinson, £7.50). Bumping into an old mistress at an acquaintance's funeral sets seventy-year-old Midlands solicitor John Bainbridge off on a chain of not altogether comfortable recollections. As he takes stock of his life, we come to share the judgement of another of his old flames: "fundamentally, John, you're a silly, immature man." Indeed he is, and an egocentric monster to boot. But he is not wholly without insight. "I have not yet made head or tail of my wife", he realizes, wondering at the contrast between this failure and his success in advising clients about their marriages. I find Stanley Middleton irresistible. His characters move in a tightly defined little world, but the adventures (and particularly the misadventures) they experience are of a dimension which makes nonsense of the idea that he is a miniaturist. He is however a flawless old-fashioned craftsman and writes like an angel.

Virginia Fassnidge's Something Else (Constable, £5.95) is a sad little story about two antique dealers who try first to con, and then to comfort, a girl desolated by her father's death. The ménage à trois turns sour, and the cast is reduced to two in predictably melodramatic circumstances. I couldn't for the life of me see the point of it all. Equally baffling, but much more entertaining, is Rachel Ingalls' Mrs Caliban (Faber, £6.50). Dorothy, a typical American housewife, is on the verge of a nervous breakdown only partly caused by the (well-founded) suspicion that her husband Fred has Another Woman. Suddenly, the kitchen door opens, and a "gigantic six-foot-seven-inch frog-like creature shouldered its way into the house". Hm. Tricky situation. But fortunately, the Monsterman (who speaks English with a Mexican accent and is called Larry, for all that he's dark spotted green-brown and entirely hairless) is well-disposed towards Dorothy, though less so towards the five punk kids and two research scientists he rubs out during the course of the book. Dorothy and Larry fall in love, and then she discovers her husband's mistress is none other than her best friend's teenage daughter. They can't all live happily ever after, and they don't. See what I mean about baffling?

John Nicholson

The Safety Net
By Heinrich Böll

Translated by Leila Vennewitz

(Secker & Warburg, £7.50)

Security has suddenly become a threatening word. It now means guards with guns, secretly gathered information, elaborate mechanical devices. Böll sees the safety net which is stretched out beneath public figures in today's confused society as a net that ensnares and, ironically, destroys. His central character, Fritz Tolm, is an elderly newspaper proprietor, a simple man, whose steady success and comparative lack of ambition have somehow combined to make him a suitable puppet president of an association of industrial chiefs. So he must have the full security treatment, he must be protected from "them". The lives of his family and friends are disrupted: they become prisoners in their own homes and alienated from their long suffering neighbours. Helicopters and police cars and furtive investigators move in.

Böll is interested in the absurdity of security as well as its menace. He makes the greatest threat to Tolm's safety come from within his own family. One son is a committed member of the alternative society; the other has, in the past, been a "rock thrower". His former wife Veronica is still at large and working with Bev, another terrorist whom the Tolm family have known from childhood. The panic and fear in the situation is built around the sort of threat which these present. Will they strike through somebody's cigarette lighter, casually offered but set to explode? Or could one of the wild ducks which fly past Tolm's window be a skilfully camouflaged floating bomb? Everything is suspect and the tension builds up only to end in anticlimax when Bev is arrested in a women's shoe shop and Veronica appears, at last, on target with nothing more sophisticated than a bicycle wired with explosives which she then surrenders, uninvited to the nearest policeman.

The characters, although there are an extraordinary number of them, are mostly either vague or emblematic, because this is not a strory about people but a warning about the newest sort of repression in a disintegrating society. Much of the action is seen from a distance and Tolm, in telling his side of the story, relies on weary aphorisms. "The best we can do", he says, "is acknowledge the fact that we are prisoners — that we'll perish in security, perhaps from security." It is a tired man's nightmare.

Anne Barnes

The Rebel Angels
By Robertson Davies

(Allen Lane, £6.50)

The rebel angels in title were Samahazai and Azazel, who betrayed the secrets of Heaven to King Solomon, and were therefore chucked out of heaven by God. But they were not megalomaniac bad losers like Lucifer. Instead they gave mankind another boost up the ladder; they came to earth and taught tongues, and healing, and laws, and hygiene, and were often particular successes with the daughters of men.

In this jolly novel they are a pair of middle-aged male unmarried dons at a Canadian University of St John and the Holy Ghost (Spook for short). The book is an agreeable surprise for racialists who suppose that out of Canada nothing new or witty can come, and for deja-voyeurs who sigh wearily that campus fictions are passe. Both rebel academics are in love with the delectable medievalist postgraduate Maria. An unpublished manuscript by Rabelais is discovered in a mountainous bequest by a scholarly magpie, and promptly stolen by another scholarly magpie. The scandalous Brother Parlabane comes home to roost and indulge in bizarre sexual practices.

The author is a bearded magus himself, Oxford-educated, journalist, now Master of Massey College in Toronto, and a wit. There is murder, theft, suicide, and a lot of assorted plot, alongside much urbane chat, scholarship, Rabelaisian goings-on, and satire. In short, it is an intelligent farce, and highly recommended.

Philip Howard

Television

Trying to do justice

Minder, on Thames, has become one of those programmes that has its devotees going around urging their friends to watch it, which is the best kind of propaganda, for who wants to hurt one's friends? Certainly it has grown from an amiable enough, might-as-well-watch-it series into a witty one, providing much scope for the comic talent of George Cole, as the self-centred, artful Arthur, and the more straightforward but nonetheless effective skills of Dennis Waterman as his long-suffering minder.

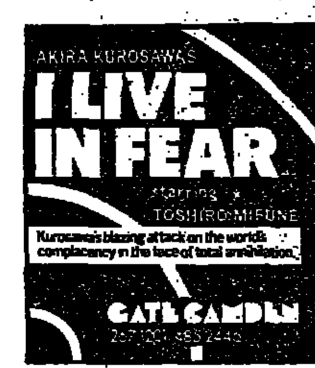
Last night's episode, *Poetic Justice Innit?* also gave character opportunities to quite a lot of people for it unfolded around Arthur on jury service. This provided the occasion for a successful pastiche of that great Fonda film, *Twelve Angry Men*, with Arthur, as jury foreman, conniving to fly in the face of overwhelming evidence to spite an old police foe.

He did not succeed, which is as well perhaps for our confidence in the jury system, but it made for enjoyable viewing while action man Waterman pursued the sub-plot outside the law courts. Tony Hoare's script tied all the strands neatly together. and the director, Terry Green, ensured that a bright idea was not over-extended.

I do not think *Nancy Astor*, in the form in which it appears on BBC2, was a bright idea and, with two parts still to go, it certainly seems over-extended. The names and the costumes are there but the conviction is lacking. There is no doubt Lady Astor was a formidable woman and cowed most of those around her to the degree of acquiescence seen here, but Lisa Harrow, even when she is smacking her drunken son's face, connot convince me as a dreadnought, or, though she says "sumpin'" quite often, as a Virginian.

Last night Nancy was having a tough time. First, the evil Bottomley published the fact that she was divorced and not, as stated in *Who's Who*, a widow, just when she was defending the marital state in the Commons; then Bobby, her son by her first marriage, had to resign his commission after being drunk on duty and subsequently got himself nabbed on a homosexuality charge. Not a happy time at Cliveden — but the end is in sight.

Dennis Hackett



Opera

Bold display of early Verdi

Attila/Ernani

Châtelet, Paris

The Châtelet does not need to worry too much about balancing its opera repertoire. Two years ago, when the house was renovated and presented to Paris as the capital's own home for music and dance, Le Théatre Musical de Paris, there was much talk of establishing a permanent opera company there. But such undertakings come expensive. The TMP decided that for the most part it should import its operas or act as a co-producer. The chief luxury of being a borrower rather than a lender is that seasons can be constructed around a single theme.

Last year nineteenth-century French opera was the topic. One work squeezed into the time-span by a whisker and another did not quite make the allotted period. This spring the chosen subject, early Verdi, has a much more compact look about it. *Macbeth* was a co-production with Bologna, *I masnadieri* came in from Nancy, *Attila* is another co-production this time with Nancy, and for good measure there have been two concert performances of *Ernani* which the TMP have arranged themselves.

The fact that a production of *Attila* is available while one of *Ernani* is apparently not is in itself a comment on the vocal demands of the later opera. A season of early Verdi made in heaven — or even based on firm commercial grounds — would have given *Attila* the concert performance and put on stage *Ernani*, the composer's first great success. Not that the visiting critic has much ground for complaint: *Ernani* has been performed in London by the WNO, given dismal stagings at St Pancras and Sadler's Wells and heard in concert, but has not been accorded the grand production it deserves since the First World War. It is always "just around the corner" at Covent Garden, but that corner is never turned.

But first to *Attila*, which came in 1846, two years after *Ernani*, almost to the week, but which is much the rougher work. A lot of that roughness comes from the principal characters, who are as unsympathetic a collection as Verdi ever assembled on stage: the swaggering Attila; his main adversary, the Roman general Ezio, who makes up in cunning what he lacks in military strength; Odabella, who rounds off the opera by stabbing Attila once she is betrothed to him. There is little tenderness around the lagoons of Aquileia, where the action takes place, and the leading tenor, Foresto, remains a shadowy figure even though he gets a disarming cavatina in the Prologue and an impassioned duet with Odabella in the act which follows.

Verdi's main business, though, is with the lower voices. *Attila* is the only opera he composed with a bass in the leading role and Kurt Rydl, from Vienna, cuts a fine vocal swathe through the score: rich, resonant and aggressive. With his bald pate and his black beard Rydl looked like a refugee from Kung Fu on Saturday evening television, but his voice carries all the dark, concentrated vigour which characterizes this opera.

John Rawnsley, in his Paris debut, made Ezio a shaggier and less military man. Verdi, and particularly early Verdi, lies easily for his baritone and, with the two men splitting worlds between them in *Attila*'s most famous line, "Avrai tu l'universo, resti l'Italia a me" (You can take the universe, Italy's mine), there is a foretaste of the bass-baritone confrontations in the great later operas, notably *Don Carlo* and *Simon Boccanegra*. Marilyn Zschau, recently heard as Musetta at Covent Garden, strode on stage clearly determined to be a *Boadicea* among these male warriors in her opening cavatina. She succeeded, much to the delight of the Châtelet audience, but had less command of the coloratura in Odabella's "Oh, nel fuggenta nuvolo", a number in which Verdi thinned out his orchestration and which used to be much favoured by Callas in recitals. It was a bold rather than a controlled performance. The tenor, Francisco Ortiz, was considerably more restrained as Foresto, but restraint was not in the musical spirit of the evening.

Gianluigi Gelmetti, a conductor from Rome in his mid-thirties and one well worth watching for in the future, matched his bass and baritone bar for bar in the power and attack he drew from the Orchestre Colonne.

Rene Allio's staging, alas, was lethargic. He has had a long career as a designer, which stretches back beyond *The Recruting Officer* for the National Theatre in its Waterloo Road days. But the move to production is another matter. It is all too fashionable at the moment, but few make the transition successfully — Jean-Pierre Ponnelle remains the principal exception. Allio's perspectives are bewitching: tiny buildings grow in the distance as they did in his *Louise* for the Coliseum, but the elegant columns and calm sea suggest a travel poster for Grado rather than the storms of Verdi's Aquileia, and the broken chariot-wheels and rocks are mere pedestals from which to deliver lengthy arias.

Further evidence of the improvement of the Colonne Orchestra was audible in Sunday's concert performance of *Ernani* under Jacques Delacôte. He began gingerly, testing the temperature, but, encouraged by a quartet of soloists ready to take a few risks and by musicians who have spent most of the last six weeks in Berdi's company, he opened out to conduct a reading where the constant forward thrust of the music was tempered with a touch of aristocracy.

Ernani in some way is the reverse of *Attila*. It opens with three hit numbers — provided of course there are available a tenor, soprano and bass capable of singing them — but the first act is lengthy. Thereafter the opera tautens musically and dramatically, with the best of the score contained in the third act by Charlemagne's tomb and the slaughter at the close. *Attila*, by contrast, can fall into risibility once the swords are out.

The Châtelet had one or two changes from the cast announced at the beginning of the season, no easy matter in view of the scant number of singers carrying this particular opera in their repertoire. The Elvira, Seta del Grande, who declined to rely on a score, could have used some of the weight in the middle of her voice to nourish the top, but international class Elviras are now as rare as Isoldes. John Brocheler, the Carlo, has a massive baritone but little ability to sing pianissimo. The other two rivals for Elvira's hand — she is one of the most sought-after heroines in opera — provided the most satisfying performances: John Cheek, the dignified Silva, and above all a young tenor, highly musical and with a formicable array of top notes (rare combination), Giuliano Cianella, in the title role.

■ Performances of *Attila* tonight and Saturday at 8.30 pm.

John Higgins



Verdi in 1844, the year "Ernani" was premièred

Soul music

Maze featuring Frankie Beverly

Odeon, Hammersmith

One cool dude, in shiny black from boots to leather baseball cap, Frankie Beverly was plainly the most surprised man in Hammersmith this week. Without hits, without fanfare, without any sort of reputation outside the soul clubs, his group had not only filled the Odeon on two consecutive nights but had enjoyed a reception as tumultuous as any within my memory.

An eight-member soul band from Philadelphia via San Francisco, Maze have been a fixture in the American charts for several years without ever quite achieving the recognition among a broader audience which has come to Earth, Wind & Fire or the *Commodores*. They are a hard-core soul group, and in London they brought out the hard-core soul audience — which is young, equally divided between black and white, and willing to do its bit towards creating a good time.

Maze's musical formula is straightforward and specific: open-ended middleweight grooves, usually floated on the patter of conga drums and illuminated by light synthesizer touches, rooted in the loose, improvisatory feeling invented by Marvin Gaye for *What's Going On* a decade ago. Their lyrics deal in optimism, aspiration, affirmation: "Joy and pain/Are like sunshine and rain" is about as profound as they get, but to hear 3,000 voices repeating that chant in perfect syncopation was to share the astonished delight of the band, who dropped their instruments and gaped in wonder across the footlights.

Certainly, some of the grooves were allowed to continue past the point at which Beverly's lead voice, a high tenor clearly influenced by Jackie Wilson, could still find fresh variations, but in general the distinction between ensemble discipline and indulgence of the crowd's mood was correctly maintained in such songs as "Changing Times", "The Look in Your Eyes" and "You".

Richard Williams

Theatre

Freddie Starr

Cambridge Theatre

Freddie Starr makes his first appearance at the Cambridge Theatre to the strains of "Land of Hope and Glory". Wearing royal robes and crowned with a tiara, he steals the applause from Mike Goddard's joke-telling to ascend to the royal box, which already sports cut-outs of the Prince and Princess of Wales. By the end of the evening, he was assuring the critic from *Variety* that all that rigmarole would be gone tomorrow, that he knew when he had made a mistake. Too modest by half, Mr Starr deserves the royal box. He may not be the queen he claims to be, but he is an undoubted prince of bad taste.

While still wearing the royal robes, he produces a baby doll "tailor-made by Richard Burton". When he finally arrives on stage, it is as Adolf Hitler in uniform, wearing shorts marked with a swastika. Those soon drop around his ankles, exposing bare-cheeked effronteries. When he warms up, he runs through old jokes, interspersed with lavatory sounds, and finds comedy in the blindness of Ray Charles — and just how he got blind.

There is not only Mr Starr; apart from the quick-tongued mimicry of Mr Goddard, there is an orchestra with backing singers. For several minutes, there are the ingenious marionettes of Roger Stevenson and Harry S. Stuart, but the presence that fills the theatre is Mr Starr, and, even through his easy vulgarities, his potent talent is inescapable.

Mr. Starr possesses a good singing voice that learnt its projection in the rock caverns of Hamburg, but even at his most serious he makes a joke of it, grimacing, mimicking radio cross-talk on the microphone or giving coarsely worded but tonally exact impressions of the voices of Richard Burton, Johnny Cash and others. Elvis Presley is his best observed character, still able to sing and too fuddled to snap his fingers in time. Despite his talent, his chief attraction might well be the poverty of his material. The act is held together by rich, natural gift, but he makes it seem as if anyone could do it equally well when he is an original; bad taste and all.

Ned Chaillet

Concerts

LSO Chamber Ensemble

Barbican Hall

The audience continues to grow for the London Symphony Orchestra's early Tuesday evening chamber concerts: after the less well attended wind and brass programmes, the mixed chamber ensemble played this week to a near-capacity audience.

Peripatetic coffee drinkers approaching the velvet-seated haven for tired workers may have heard the band practising one or two items a week or so ago in the pre-concert foyer music, all ready to provide balm, or, as the case was on Tuesday, to embalm weary ears and minds. After the Queen of Sheba had made her routine appearance, it was the turn of the first soloist of the evening, Peter Lloyd, in C. P. E. Bach's amiable D minor Flute Concerto. That, too, was played slickly and neatly, but very much as if it were still background music, the strings providing a somewhat glutinous, undifferentiated accompaniment to the flute's often testing writing.

Anthony Camden took the stage for one of the more enterprising items on the programme, Bellini's Oboe Concerto. Written while he was still a student, it need not sound like a mere student composition. The germs at least of a prima donna's long melodies are there, but they need more beguiling and affectionate advocacy than Mr Camden felt able to bring, and the sharp-witted allegro polonese can be much more fun.

Douglas Cummings and Rod McGrath bit hard into the vigorous figurations, the springing syncopations of Vivaldi's G minor Concerto for two cellos. Theirs was a more stimulating, if cruder, dialogue than the hard and tedious conversation between Michael Davis and Anthony Camden in Bach's D minor Concerto for violin and oboe. But, apart from the prettily inventive harpsichord continuo, the ensemble's playing remained gently complacent.

Only in Elgar's *Serenade* for Strings, a work it would indeed be difficult to play with indifference, did the sap really begin to flow. Here that sense of interfertilization that one expects from these often fine ensemble players drew out constantly fluctuating shades of line and shadow from Elgar's sensuously textured writing.

Hilary Finch

Tate Music Group

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Judging by the first two pieces in the Tate Music Group's debut concert on Tuesday, one could be forgiven for assuming their name to have been influenced by something other than the art gallery a few hundred yards upstream, so sickly sweet was their playing. They chose a programme of four J. S. Bach concertos and one, for flute, by his son, Carl Philipp Emanuel.

The group's director, the violinist Richard Studt, who promises unconducted Bartók and Barber in the future, launched his new musical vessel with the Violin Concerto in A minor. His careful tempos gave the first movement admirable clarity, but the Andante became burdensome, and there was little passion or commitment about the finale.

Similarly, caution pervaded the orchestral playing in the Oboe Concerto in G minor, one of those works Bach later converted into a harpsichord concerto. Instead of commanding a different approach from his colleagues, the white jacketed soloist, Malcolm Messiter, simply sprinted ahead of them, seemingly more hell-bent on sheer exhibitionism than on doing the music any kind of justice.

No gaudy apparel was needed for the harpsichordist Trevor Pinnock to woo his audience in the D minor Harpsichord Concerto. Briskly establishing a tight rhythmic control, he exuded an irrepressible vitality which the orchestra dared not resist imitating, although even he could not prevent the accompaniment to his elaborate line in the Adagio from degenerating into something more suited to the Palm Court.

After the interval Edward Beckett properly took a leaf from Mr Pinnock's book with his lithe, alert and commanding playing of the C.P.E. Bach Flute Concerto in D minor. With its angular themes and rhythms, and especially its embryonic *Sturm und Drang* finale, it had in any case enough to stimulate this orchestra of its own accord. Stimulated they remained, thankfully, when party to Michael Laird's conspicuous success in taming the still savage trumpet part of Bach's second Brandenburg Concerto, his fellow soloists achieving with him a balance which was near-miraculous.

Stephen Pettitt

On the 25th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, Julian Amery recalls a momentous lunch-time meeting

How Churchill's dream of Europe foundered

On September 30, 1946 I was bidden to lunch by Churchill. The other guests were Duncan Sandys, who had helped to prepare Churchill's Zurich speech; my father, Leo Amery, the guardian of the Conservative Party's conscience on the Commonwealth; and Boothby. Our purpose was to launch the European Movement.

Churchill saw Europe as a grand alliance against Soviet imperialism and as the means of bringing Germany back into the family of nations.

But could British leadership of the Commonwealth be combined with membership of Europe? Here all agreed with my father that Britain could not join a European Federation with supra-national powers. But we could, certainly, belong to a European league of sovereign states. The Commonwealth itself was just such a league. The two could interlock.

France, Holland and Belgium, still colonial powers, would face similar problems. These could be harmonized. Sterling might even become Europe's reserve currency.

The European Movement was duly launched with Sandys as its architect. Political leaders on the Continent, newly released from prison or returned from exile, gathered eagerly around Churchill. A rally at the Albert Hall, followed by a succession of meetings in the capitals of Europe, led up to the Hague conference (1948). This called for a Council of Europe composed of a Committee of Ministers and a Consultative Assembly.

The French, Italian and Benelux governments backed the Hague proposal. The Attlee government reluctantly agreed.

Robert Schuman, inspired by Jean Monnet, now came forward with his plan for a Coal and Steel Pool. Bevin rejected it, arguing that it involved a surrender of sovereignty. Churchill supported it, confident that he could secure any necessary amendments when again in power.

But Churchill's main concern was to rearm Germany for the defence of Europe. He called for a European army. His idea — immediately rejected by the Labour Government — was taken up by the French Government, who proposed the European Defence Community.

The year 1951 saw Churchill back in power. His personal prestige was unequalled. Britain, with a united Commonwealth and Empire, still seemed a great power. Our industry was intact, our armed forces the strongest in the west after the American, sterling was an international reserve currency second only to the dollar. It was in Churchill's power to create a United Europe and give it such institutions as he chose.

True, the Demo-Christian leaders of France, Italy and Germany would have preferred a Catholic "Charlemagne Europe" without Britain. But Churchill's prestige and Britain's influence were such that they could not have stood against him.

The crunch came over the European Defence Com-munity. At Strasbourg, Maxwell-Fyfe, in a speech previously cleared with the Cabinet, declared that Britain would play a full and honourable part in a European army. A standing ovation followed. We then dispersed for lunch.

When we met again in the late afternoon my Continental colleagues deliberately turned their backs on me. At a press conference in Rome the same afternoon, Anthony Eden had repudiated Maxwell-Fyfe and declared that Britain would not join the European Army. The whole European Movement felt betrayed.

What had happened?

Two of Churchill's most powerful colleagues, Eden and Butler, had never supported his European crusade. Nor had the Foreign Office and the Treasury. The pro-European Ministers in the Cabinet, Maxwell-Fyfe, Macmillan and Sandys, had no departmental base from which to challenge the Foreign Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Churchill was ageing and his health precarious. Eden had his way.

Thus the first and best opportunity of fashioning Europe to Britain's hearts desire was lost.

There was to be a second opportunity. In 1955 the French Parliament threw out the European Defence Community proposal mainly because Britain was not in it. Eden then proposed the Western European Union. This committed then proposed the West European Union. This committed Britain to keep an Army on the Continent, indefinitely. Churchill's vision was coming true after all.

Next year Nasser's seizure of the Suez Canal revived the *Entente Cordiale* in practice and in sentiment. Shortly before the Suez operation, Guy Mollet told me that once Britain and France had successfully confronted the United States over the Middle East we could confidently build a United Europe around a Paris-London axis.

Mollet left the leadership at Suez to Britain. But then came the ceasefire dictated by Eisenhower and accepted unilaterally by Eden. The French felt betrayed. But Suez was a defeat for the whole of Europe, marking Europe's subordination to the Super Powers. Thus we lost the second opportunity to *build* a United Europe under British leadership.

Those who had all along wanted to see a *Federal Europe of the Six*, without Britain, now went ahead with the negotiations which culminated 25 years ago today in the *Treaty of Rome*.

The Foreign Office judged the project stillborn, but nearly five years later and after much hesitation Macmillan saw no option but to apply to join the European Community.

Macmillan and de Gaulle's conception of Europe was much the same. Both saw it not as a federation but as a league of Sovereign states. The other European states would have welcomed us, but de Gaulle judged Britain still too strong to be admitted to the Club. We, and not France, would have become the leaders. Hence his veto.

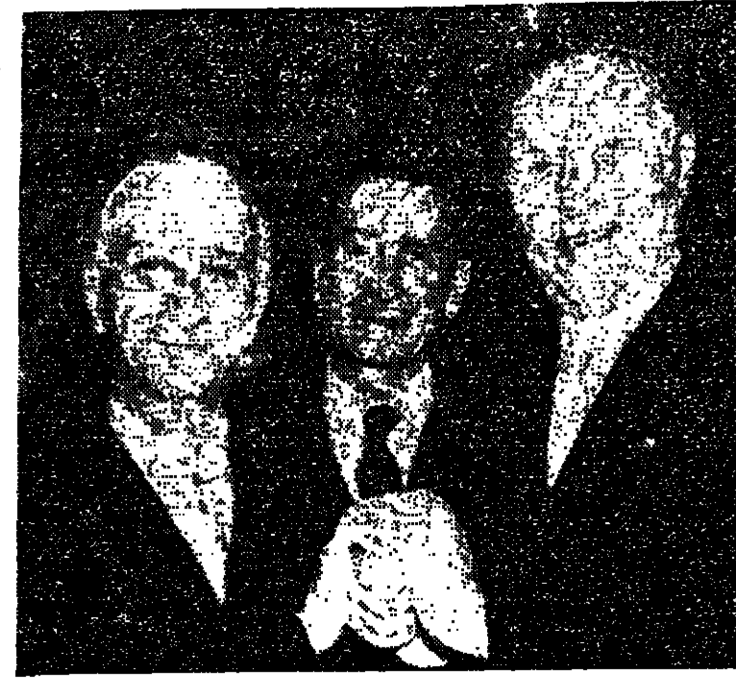
In conversation not long afterward, de Gaulle predicted a decade or two of decline for Britain. He foresaw a Socialist victory to be followed by a Conservative government "perhaps under Heath". By that time, he reckoned Britain would have been weakened enough to be an acceptable partner. It was indeed Heath who secured our admission to the Com-munity. But by that time we were no longer in a position to dictate our terms.

Two great opportunities had been lost; the third — Macmillan's attempt — had proved to be the pursuit of a mirage. Now we have been full members for a decade. Overall the bargain has been good. More than 40 per cent of our exports go to the Community and nearly 60 per cent if we include associate members — much more than we ever sold to the Commonwealth and Empire. We are certainly in no position to dominate the EEC. But nor for that matter are France and Germany. Yet Britain could still make a great contribution to it. We possess an independent nuclear deterrent and highly trained professional forces, we have our own oil resources and we enjoy relative social stability.

Then what is the way ahead? The Community is already a Customs Union and will become a full payments area as soon as we decide to join the European monetary system. But if countries pool their trade and financial interests they need to develop foreign and defence policies to promote and protect them.

Surely the time has come to return to Churchill's original concept of how best to unite Europe against the threat of Soviet imperialism. How best, in short, to make the European Community a valid partner for the United States in what must increasingly become not just a North Atlantic but a global alliance.

Julian Amery was a delegate to the Consultative Assembly on the Council of Europe, 1950-53 and 1956; and Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1972-74. He is Conservative MP for Brighton Pavilion



Antonio Segni and Konrad Adenauer sign the Treaty of Rome 25 years ago; and right, Robert Boothby, Churchill, Leo Amery and his son Julian who met in 1946 to launch the European Movement

Ronald Butt

Where the SDP must aim

If Mr Roy Jenkins takes Hillhead today, he will have achieved little of fundamental importance for the long-term future of the SDP, apart from the benefit of his presence in parliament. The SDP exists, so it claims, "to break the political mould". Yet if Mr Jenkins is victor, it is quite likely that he will have taken a further step towards breaking it in a sense very different from the purpose of the SDP's founders.

The founders of the SDP were Labour not Conservative politicians who had fought for years to stay in the Labour Party and to make it a socialist party acceptable to them. They were resisting, not all public ownership, and control but the extent to which the left wished to take it, and above all, they were fighting against the left's neutralism in foreign policy which is prompted largely by Marxist insticts.

Yet it was not any specific argument over policy that finaly drove them out of the Labour Party but the success of the left in its attempt to make the leader, the parliamentary party and the manifesto subservient to the party conference, together with growing Trotskyist influenre.

Since they had come to the conclusion that Labour was now a party unfit for poweer in a democracy, they seceded in order to replace it as the principal party of the left. The SDP was to be heir to the Attlee-Gaitskell tradition. That was the basic position of Dr Owen, Mr Rodgers and *Mrs Williams at the start*.

But the problem for any new party is how to get off the ground and for the SDP to do so initially needed Tory as well as Labour votes. Although the SDP secured no defectors from among Tory politicians (apart from the monumentally insignificant floor-crossing of Mr Brocklebank-Fowler) it quickly attracted disgrunted Tory and non-aligned voters. It was tactical logic that the SDP should make common cause with the Liberals, which was achieved through the Roy Jenkins-David Steel axis.

So the SDP has been increasingly driven to present itself as something quite different from either of the old parties and taking equally from both. Its embracing of proportional representation emphasizes its centrist position.

Moreover, it has so far only been Tory seats that the Alliance has taken, and although this is principally because no Labour seat has fallen vacant with a majority that could be overthrown, an SDP victory at Hillhead could do no more than confirm the Social Democrats as a centrist party, more attractive to Tories than to Labour voters. Looking farther ahead, the SDP's commitment to proportional representation would, if implemented, make it highly unlikely that we should get single-party government again — which would make nonsense of the claim to *replace* Labour.

Even without PR, it is possible that if the SDP establishes itself as a party that temporarily attracts more Tory than Labour voters, it will assist the Liberals to capture a number of Tory seats where they have been running second, but without the Liberals being able to reciprocate by helping the SDP to capture Labour seats equally.

If the Alliance holds the balance after the next election in a centrist position, it would probably have to form a coalition with the Tories, without Mrs Thatcher. Labour would continue its drive to the left and if the coalition failed by its policies of economic management, incomes and price control, and reflationary spending, to prevent another economic crises, Labour might return to power far more left-wing than ever. If (improbably) the coalition succeeded, however, the Alliance could will be absorbed in a new Tory Party.

The more likely outcome, however, would be a shifting series of centrist governments of varying composition achieved under PR but still unable, given our union structure and the capacity of the unions and a leftist Labour Party to make mischief, to govern Britain effectively.

The last chapter in Mr William Rodger's recent book, *The Politics of Change* is called "Breaking the Political Mould." The social assumptions of the old parties are worn out, he says, and the misgovernment of Britian under the two-party system shows that this system no longer works. What he ought to have said is not that the system is bad but that the division of power between the two chief parties that now exist works badly.

He also argues that the idea of a stable two-party system is a myth — citing the three-party period during which earlier in the century Labour was replacing the Liberals and the coalitions of the 1930s and 1940s. But this simply proves that the party structure can change, when there is need, without PR. The truth is that we have a system which allows parties *to be replaced in this way* but then rightly tends to revert to a two-party alternation — which is a way of securing structural change while maintaining a system under which questions can be put to the electorate that demand a clear answer.

The curious feature of Mr Rodgers's analysis it that it explicitly leads back to the SDP as a replacement of Labour while proposing an electoral system that makes this difficult if not impossible. Whatever Mr Jenkins's position, Mr Rodgers leaves no doubt about what he wants. "The task of the Social Democrats now is to supplant the Labour Party as the natural party of the centre-left in Britain." He is quite right that this is what it should be.

One does not have to be an SDP supporter to understand that a two-party system divided between the Conservatives and the SDP (in Labour's place) each accepting the mixed society and economy, but one emphasizing personal and the other collective responsibility is what Britain needs to restore the consensus which has broken down principally because Labour and the leftist unions refused to accept it.

Mr Rodgers understands all this very well. He also believes that the Conservatives do not ultimately stand in the same danger as Labour from the SDP and will remain "the acceptable vehicle for the centre-right of British politics." But alternative to what?

Though he sees the SDP as "firmly on the non-ideological centre-left" the question remains how, reaping Tory seats, exploiting tactical votes, allied with the Liberals and committed to a PR future which will constrain the SDP as much as any other party the Social Democrats are going to supplant Labour and thus recreate the consensus we need — even though, as Mr Rodgers observes, Labour is losing support generally more than the Tories are.

Whatever happens at Hillhead it will not help the SDP towards its necessary goal of supplanting Labour. Only when the Social Democrats take a solid Labour seat will they have the makings of a more solid basis than that which temporarily annoyed Tories can provide.

Why politicians should beware of crime statistics

The great myth of the detective

For the last two weeks the public and politicians have been bombarded with crime figures. Concern about law and order has led to intense pressure on Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, and will today produce what is likely to be a fierce House of Commons debate.

But as MPs, like Mrs Thatcher last week, grapple with the complexities of the officially recorded crime figures, they might reflect on one simple fact. The figures tell neither the truth about the extent of crime nor about police success in clearing it up. Any law and order campaign based on them is therefore bogus.

This is not to say that there is no cause for concern about the true amount of crime, nor about the viciousness of much of it. But *it is* to say that as indicators of the amount of it, the crime figures are worse than useless; they can be misleading.

As was reported in *The Times* diary last week, research suggests that there may be up to 10 times as much crime as is actually reported. And up to two thirds of what *is* reported as crime by the public may not be finally recorded as such by the police. Under-recording has been especially common in cases of alleged assault and thefts from the person.

The Home Office figures issued on March 12 and Scotland Yard statistics two days earlier were of *recorded* crime last year.

The criteria for what is recorded may vary from force to force. One study showed that in Oxford 6 per cent of reported offences and other complaints or requests for police action were written off as "no crimes" compared with fewer than two per cent in Salford.

Twice in Manchester in recent years there have been apparent surges in particular sorts of crime; yet this had less to do with the extent of it than the priority given by new Chief Constables to tackling it. One was Sir John McKay. Before his arrival in 1959, there was only one prosecution for male importuning in 1955, none at all in 1956 or 1957 and only two in 1958. The figures thereafter were 30 in 1959, 105 in 1960, 135 in 1961 and 216 in 1962.

Mr James Anderton was appointed Chief Constable of Greater Manchester on July 1 1976. That year 55 search warrants were executed under the Obscene Publications Acts and there were proceedings in 25 cases. The comparable figures in 1977 were 287 warrants and 134 proceedings, and in 1978, 151 warrants and 91 proceedings.

Mr Anderton told the Manchester Statistical Society: "Every year the Home Secretary presents to Parliament statistics relating to crime and criminal proceedings in England and Wales for the previous year. . . . But precisely what do the figures tell us about the state of criminality in the nation and what do they suggest should be done about it? Very little, is the answer I would give."

He described robbery figures as "farcical" and said a count of serious crime figures could be "utterly pointless." "Robbery" might refer either to a serious hold-up of a security guard carring a large sum of money from a bank or to the taking with some force or violence of one schoolchild's dinner money in the playground by another pupil.

Another study of a police force showed that 37 per cent of house burglaries recorded in the Chief Constable's annual report were in fact attacks on prepayment-meters, with no other property stolen or damaged. Whether the crime was recorded as simply "theft meter" or house burglary depended apparently on police assessment of the "moral character" of the complainant.

One of the most emotive arguments, essential to the debate about the return of capital punishment, is about the number of firearms used. That argument was rebutted by Chief Superintendent Mike Hoare of the Metropolitan Police, in an MSc thesis done for the Cranfield Institute of Technology.

Crimes of violence against the person with firearms showed a "frantic rise" from 768 in 1969 to 2,759 in 1978 in England and Wales, but 2,417 of them were committed with air-weapons, most of them used by 14 to 17-year-olds. Air-weapons are dangerous, but not so dangerous as a "firearm".

Courts may also downgrade the initial assessment of the seriousness of the violence. A classic study of violence 20 years ago found about two out of every three of those found guilty of a crime of violence were convicted of a lesser crime than that with which they were originally charged.

And a study of robbery discovered that fewer than two thirds of defendants were convicted of the principal offence with which they were charged: between 15 and 20 per cent were acquitted, and a further 15 to 20 per cent were convicted of a lesser offence of violence or even a non-violent offence.

Since that time, the gap between figures of reported crimes and those cleared up has widened. Only yesterday Sir David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commisioner, was reported as lamenting that a clear-up rate of 17 per cent by his force was "not acceptable."

He can take heart. Previous research has suggested the more crime is recorded, the lower the clear-up rate will be. Following the report of a Commision in the Irish Republic 10 years ago, it was decided to relate police pay to productivity. Next year there was a record increase in indictable crime. But there was an 11 per cent decrease in the detection rate. (Source: Paddy Hillyard, Department of Social Administration, Bristol University).

In *Understanding Crime Rates*, Keith Bottomley and Clive Coleman of Hull University, tell what happened when new legislation was passed in the early 1970s as a result of increasing public concern about the incidence of vandalism. An attempt was made to "cushion" the effect of the new law, they say, by not requiring offences involving property valued at £20-£100 to be recorded. That strategy has now been abandoned. The effect was a recorded increase from 42,000 offences in 1972 to more than 140,000 in 1978. They calculate that, if all damage is counted, including that under £20, there would have been 306,000 offences recorded as known to the police.

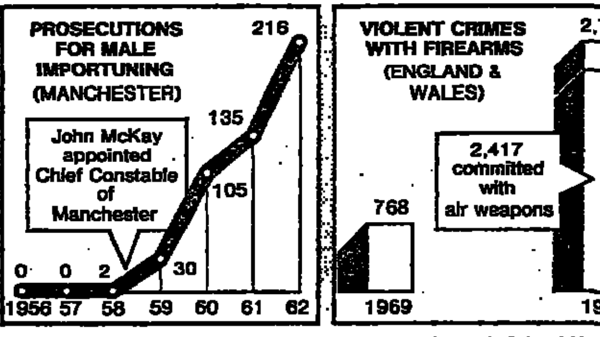
It is a myth that detective work solves most crimes. David Steer, a tutor at the Police College, Bramshill, Hampshire, found in a study for the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure that threequarters of suspects were caught carrying out the crime, were still at the scene when the police arrived, were known from the outset or were among a small number of people who had the opportunity to commit the crime.

Many property crimes are "solved" because prisoners ask for them to be "taken into consideration". In America, there were misgivings about the extent to which this was done as a trade-off.

The unanswered question is how much of the crime "increase" occurs simply because there are record numbers of police officers. Bottomley and Coleman state that evidence from places as far apart as Uganda and Nashville, Tennessee, shows that the sort of incidents considered worthwhile reporting to the police depend on how accessible the police are.

Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The Effectiveness of Policing *ed. R V G Clarke and J M Hough (Gower 1980)*. Understanding Crime Rates *by Keith Bottomley and Clive Coleman (Gower 1981)*. Uncovering Crime. The Police Role. *Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure. Research Study No 7 (Stationery Office)*. Crimes of Violence, *F H McClintock et al (Macmillan 1963)*.



Source: P. A. R. Hillyard, Bristol University

Was Southey to blame for our troubles?

"George Gilder, an American who believes the way to create wealth is to let creative men of faith have lots of money, goes further than our own Lord Annan in blaming Britain's stagnation and decline on our intellectuals.

Annan, as I disclosed recently, is considering writing a book connecting our economic malaise with the anti-industrial attitudes of people like Evelyn Waugh and George Orwell. Gilder, programme director of the International Center for Economic Policy Studies in Manhattan and author of a best-selling book called *Wealth and Poverty* which is published in its British edition today, traces the trouble back to the nineteenth century Poet Laureate, Robert Southey.

Early in the Industrial Revolution, Gilder says, Southey wrote two volumes of passionate prose proving that manufacturing was all a terrible mistake, and made the cardinal error himself of supposing that wealth for some must create poverty for others. Ever since, Gilder argues, poets and clergy have combined with "trade union Luddites, neo-Ruskinian literati, nostalgic Tories, Gothic revival socialists and manor house Maoists" in self-fulfilling fantasies of decorous decay."

It was Macaulay, one English intellectual Gilder does approve, who fingered Southey, in what Gilder calls "a splendidly pro-growth essay."

On the other hand Adam Smith, author of *The Wealth of Nations* and father of free trade, proved a sad disappointment. "I was astonished to find that Smith was a violent enemy of individual capitalists, making continual sneers and disdainful references to those in trade."

Intellectuals of the Right, Gilder concludes, are little better than those of the Left. They might like productivity but do not much care for producers.

This intellectual tendency toward bankruptcy, you will be glad to hear, is not exclusively a British trait. It has, in Gilder's view, crippled America too. Capitalism will not be safe anywhere, he says, until we are prepared to defend capitalists.

Army manoeuvre

The British army has failed in its attempt to overrun *The Good Museums Guide*, published today. The tactics, according to Kenneth Hudson who edits the book, were an interesting tribute to the thorough and many-sided training provided by the Staff College, but the military's execution of their manoeuvre was "bizarre and chuckle-provoking."

Britain, says Hudson, has far more military museums than any other country in the world, including the Soviet Union. When few were included in the previous edition of the *Guide*, the opening shot was a letter from the association representing 150 army museums.

This was followed by a barrage of completed report forms used by the *Guide's* panel of inspectors, but all filled in by the curators of the army museums, each setting out the glories in his care. Careful examination revealed that dozens of photocopies had been made from a single original, and circulated to the army museums so that they could be fired off individually.

The smoke having cleared, it can now be seen that the broad-fronted assault lost, rather than gained, ground. In the new book the museum of the Royal Hampshire Regiment in Winchester is dropped in favour of that of the Royal Hussars, while that of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment in Leicester is eliminated and not replaced from military ranks.

THE TIMES DIARY

The London Serpent Trio celebrate their sixth birthday and their patronal festival — All Fool's Day — a week today with a lunchtime concert in the crypt of St. John's, Smith Square.

The serpent, an ancient instrument which looks like an elephant's intestine and if not played well can sound like it too, is so curvy that when properly held it directs the sound straight into the player's right-hand trouser pocket.

Christopher Monk, Alan Lumsden and Andrew van der Beek are probably the only professional serpent players in the world. They play in tail coats and cravats, and their music has been variously described as "gruff as a snorting buffalo, as sinister as a wind among tombstones" and as "soft and gentle as the sigh of a baby . . well, the baby's father".

Not at table

Britain could be severely under-represented at the banquet next week to mark the EEC's 25th anniversary. So far four former prime ministers, two lords and Roy Jenkins, candidate for Glasgow Hillhead, have all declined invitations to attend.

Among the regrets for the dinner, planned to coincide with the EEC summit in Brussels on Monday, are those of Edward Heath, Harold Macmillan, Lord Home and Sir Harold Wilson.

Lord Thomson of Monifieth, former commissioner and chairman of the Labour Committee for Europe, is sorry, and Lord George-Brown cannot make it either.

At the last minute James Callaghan, Edmund Dell, former Labour Trade Secretary and David Owen have been invited to make up numbers.

No time

Observant two- to four-year-olds watching *Play School* on BBC TV on Monday are likely to pester their parents to know why the clock has stopped. It is not going to be easy to explain, because it involves a three-way demarcation dispute between the broadcasting unions.

Those who work on the programme cannot agree among themselves whose job it is to start and maintain the big electric cog with yellow wheels which is featured. The electricians claimed the job in 1980, and were opposed by the show's working operatives, who said the clock was a piece of scenery and therefore their responsibility.

Compromise kept the hands moving till last weekend's recording session, when the Association of Broadcasting Staffs joined in and the clock was stopped. Now infants anxious to tell the time may have to dial the speaking clock, and unless the unions chime together to get *Play School's* timepiece ticking again there could be an all-out strike.

Non-runners

The TUC General Council yesterday brought its full weight against a propasal for a trade union sponsored "fun run." In an untypically frank appraisal of their omn limitations the council overwhelmingly defeated the scheme canvassed by jogging fitness fanatic, William Sirs of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation.

Sirs failed even to find a seconder for his plea that a hostile committee report on his proposal—a run during the annual congress at Brighton in September—should be referred back. Presenting the report, rotund Clive Jenkins invited his colleagues to consider their average age and that of Congress delegates. The problems would be tremendous, he suggested, and qualified medical help essential.

Sirs organized a successful fun run during his own union's annual conference in Bournemouth last year. He ran out an easy winner.

Social rounds

In a publication called *The Public House, Leisure and Social Control* Dr Michael Smith of Salford University could be suspected of *wanting to drive his readers to drink*.

"The public house, as an alcohol drinking context, mirrors the uniquity of alcohol, its manufacture and consumption and attempts to control both, in the annals of the historical changes which have resulted in contemporary urban industrial society", he postulates.

And adds: "The public drinking house as a context for alcohol consumption, in relation to British society, has not evolved in a linear historical sense, nor in terms of a rational scheme for social change . . .". Look, what's yours?

Residents at Ringwood in Hampshire are raising a stink about a local farmer's plans to keep pigs near their homes. The house which would be worst affected, being right next door to the farrow barn, is called Pooh Cottage

Papal gem

No sooner do I tell you that the BBC World Service is to broadcast the play by Pope John-Paul 11 than I hear that theatrical impresario Bill Kenwright is to present the same work under a different title, *The Jeweller's Shop*, at the Westminster Theatre.

Opening three days before the pontiff's arrival in Britain its cast will include Hannah Gordon and Gwen Watford. Robin Phillips is to direct.

Listening in

The ricochet of political sniping resounds in this week's issue of *The Listener*. On page 17 Sir Ian Gilmour, given the chance to review Nigel Fisher's book on Harold Macmillian, does not let slip the opportunity for some covert political attacks on Margeret Thatcher.

Thus Fisher is said to show "some small signs of having been mildly infected by the current economic fashion", and his comment that the sort of mixed economy Macmillan favoured "now finds general acceptance" is curtly described as "sanguine." Macmillan, Gilmour concludes, could have done more for investment and should have reformed industrial relations, but we have never had it so good again.

On page 26 Labour MP Phillip Whitehead takes potshots at his near neighbour in Kentish Town, William Rodgers of the SDP. "We have lived not ten doors away from each other for many years but his book, *The Politics of Change*, reminds me of the houses in between."

It is a relief to find that on page 24 Gerald Kaufman, MP, is only writing about Maurice Chevalier.

PHS



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MR BREZHNEV'S CHINA CARD

Mr Brezhnev's appeal for improved relations with China from the relative proximity of Tashkent must be set against the long background of Sino-Soviet conflict. It is now ten years since President Nixon landed in Peking. He gave the Russians much more to worry about than they had had through years of argument with the Chinese. Divorce from China was bad. A possible war on two fronts was far, far worse. Gradually, however, their anxiety lessened as they reinforced their frontier, watched China's continuing instability following the cultural revolution, and built up hopes that détente in Europe, formalised by the Helsinki agreement, would assure them stability in the west. While that lasted there was less cause to worry about China's friendship with America.

In the last three years instability in Europe, both military and political, has altered the balance. Détente has languished and the Russians have become worried by Nato's plans to install new missiles in Europe. Poland — always the most sensitive country on the western frontier — has become dangerously unstable. The Soviet Union's western flank no longer seems quite so secure. This may provide one reason for turning east to see if the Chinese mood has become more accommodating. Another could be to show Washington that Russia, too, can play the China card.

The first moves were made in 1979, by which time Mr Deng Xiaoping had succeeded the too cautious and inhibited Mr Hua Guofeng as China's policy maker. Talks were begun that autumn in Moscow but with little hope of success; indeed after six meetings even the agenda had not been finalised. And then came Afghanistan to inflame yet another corner of Soviet anxiety. The talks that were to have been resumed in Peking the following spring were curtly dismissed by the Chinese.

Since then the Russians have had better reason to hope for some response from the Chinese, thanks to Mr Reagan. His presidency has worried the Russians in Europe but has also worried the Chinese because of his attitude to Taiwan. The argument has gone on between Peking and Washington for almost a year, with China's attitude steadily hardening to the point of saying that if there is no change in Washington their relations must remain at a standstill or may deteriorate. Seeing the possibility of these cracks opening up it is natural for the Russians to reach out for a new test of Chinese intentions.

They offered talks last September and renewed the offer at the beginning of last month. In January, Mr Sergei Tikhvinsky, a Soviet China expert with much experience of the country before the communists came to power, paid a visit to Peking as Chairman of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association. Probably Mr Brezhnev's offer would not now have been made unless he had some reason to expect a response.

Of course the Chinese could use their response as a means of applying pressure on Washington. But it is doubtful whether that alone would prompt a warm reply. Undoubtedly there have been disagreements among the Chinese leaders during the past fifteen years over the extent of the break with the Russians and even more over friendship with the United States. The army in China was well aware of its inferiority to the Russians divisions they faced — the clashes in 1969 brought that home — but while Mao lived his bravura was enough to silence grumbling. Latterly, China's economic "readjustment" has banished any hope that modern weapons will redress the military balance on the frontier in any foreseeable future.

Equally there have been critics of the friendship with the Americans, especially since Mr Deng's gallivanting in Washington and Texas suggested that he was ready to make more concessions to buy this friendship than China should risk. It is hard to calculate how much these objections to the Russian and American relationships have impeded Mr Deng in bringing about the economic and political changes in China of the past two years, but the evidence of tactical diversions and some outright reversals of policy suggests that stubborn resistance in some army circles has been a constant factor.

Asked by his visitors — American senators among them — Why China has no hope of lessening the Soviet threat, Mr Deng's answer has always been that China will believe in Soviet goodwill the moment the Russian divisions on the frontier begin to be reduced. Without such a gesture, China's suspicion will remain. Can Mr Brezhnev hope for a Chinese move that would simultaneously nudge President Reagan on the subject of Taiwan and encourage the Russians to withdraw one or two divisions from the frontier? Certainly, the Chinese have shown their resolution over Taiwan in the past few months, as might have been expected by those who know China's feelings about the island. It is much less easy to define any concessions that China might think it worth making to improve relations with Moscow.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT ON THE INDEX

Members of Parliament, on £13,950 a year plus expenses, are poor paid compared with most of their fellow legislators in the industrialized world and compared, in particular, with the fat cats at Strasbourg. *Domestic comparisons* give a similar impression: when MPs got their latest rise last summer the head of a recreation parks department in a third tier local authority was getting about the same and has shot up since.

It is not so much that the public grudges them their pay as that governments are fearful of the effect of a substantial rise upon other claimants. Even this government, newly elected in a mood to discountenance all incomes policies, tried to spread a recommended rise over three years as an example, only to provoke a backbench revolt.

From time to time the House appoints a select committee or passes a motion to rectify the position. Still the rate remains low and its upward mobility sluggish. To get a higher place in the earnings league they would have done better to place their affairs in the hands of Mr Clive Jenkins.

The select committee that reported this week is not concerned with the amount but with ways of fixing the amount. Two ways have been tried and one recommended. After the first apologetic authorization by members of Parliament to pay themselves a stipend out of national funds in 1911, the Ministry or a committee of the House would from time to time make a recommendation as to the amount and the recommendation would or would not be implemented.

Then, in 1963, the first of the independent reports was commissioned. They are now *undertaken at irregular intervals* by the Review Body on Top Salaries. It was thought that a more thorough and more impartial examination could be conducted that way. It was also thought that it would help to take the question out of politics, a vain hope. *The House still has to* authorize payment of the money and the Government still has to make provision for it in the estimates, so the old stickiness and embarrassments still surround the procedures.

Those are the two ways that have been tried. The recommended way, recommended inter alia by a resolution of the House, is to go for linkage; tie the rate to that of say, an assistant secretary in the civil service, then sit back and watch it go up.

The latest select committee has gone for a combination of methods two and three. It wants regular reviews in depth by the Review Body on Top Salaries to consider *changes in work load and in* what might be regarded as the appropriate level of pay and allowances; and it wants "interim linkage", or automatic annual adjustments between reviews by reference to the nearest percentile in the Department of Employment's New Earnings Survey. It would like the major reviews to be held and decisions arising out of them taken in the last year of a Parliament, thus sparing the freshly elected members their blushes as they vote themselves more money.

This is a little too pat. The vehicle for riding the *inflationary road is too well* sprung for the type of passenger it carries. MPs need primarily more generous allowances for defraying expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties. To do their work they need to have better facilities *and assistance than is now at* the disposal of most of them. And there is no objection to that element in their remuneration being indexed for inflation once the level is properly determined.

Their salaries too, which ought to be middling, deserve to go up a bit. After that, however, there is a lot to be said for stickiness in the procedure for adusting them. While the Civil List for royal expenses should be adjusted for inflation with the minimum fuss, the rate of salary paid from public funds to members of Parliament should be adjusted with the maximum of fuss. It may be a primitive view, but it is surely a sound one, that the elected *collective* in the Palace of Westminster, unlike the family in Buckingham Palace, is uniquely (though far from exclusively) responsible for the social evil of a debased currency; that it has unique (though not absolute) authority to palliate the mischief; and that it has no business to fix itself up with a lifeboat until it has taken the passengers off.

Young offenders

From Dr Harriet Wilson

Sir, A new clause has been tabled to *the Criminal Justice Bill which* would allow the courts to order young offenders aged 10-21 to stay at home between 6 pm and 6 am on weekdays and from noon at *weekends*.

This clause adds to the measures which are embodied in clauses 22 and 23 of the Criminal Justice Bill, all of which in effect *enable* the courts to *impose* sanctions upon parents. I do not wish to comment on the justice of relieving young offenders of the responsibility for paying a fine or compensation and imposing this payment on parents, or of imposing upon parents the onerous duty of guarding teenagers or young adults while under house arrest. My concern is merely to question the effectiveness of such measures.

For the last 15 years my colleagues and I, with Home Office support, have been investigating the methods used by parents who live in high-crime areas in preventing their children *from becoming delinquent*. We have convincing evidence of the effectiveness of a strict parental regime. Children from strict homes tend to be only marginally, if at all, involved in antisocial pursuits. The children who become involved in more serious offences and, often at an early age, come from homes where supervision is lax.

This finding appears to support a policy of legal measures designed to strengthen the authority of parents. But the matter is not as simple as that. The parents who supervise their children's activities do so because they have ideas about what is right and what is wrong. Their children receive two sorts of message — first, that certain kinds of behaviour are undesirable, and secondly, that certain children are not behaving in a manner that would warrant closer acquaintance. The technique of strict supervision of the younger child turns into self-imposed control as the child grows older.

Two factors contribute to the success of responsible parenting — material resources and parental resourcefulness. Gross and *persistent* poverty means that *children are prevented from* taking part in any activities that cost money and from developing hobbies and special interests.

The art of supervising children in *high-crime areas* depends to a large extent on offering alternatives to the excitements of street life. This does not mean that families in poverty do not supervise their children; we have interviewed many families on subsistence incomes who persist in keeping up behavioural standards. But when poverty is coupled with parental illness or disability, as it often is, then parental resources are drained, and the attention of parents is focused on survival. Their children learn at an early age to fend for themselves.

It is obvious that court orders to pay their children's fines or to supervise curfew would not alter the predicament of these parents. What is needed is the relief of poverty. *What to do with their* children, once delinquent, is one of the seemingly intractable problems that led to the collapse of the rehabilitative ideal among reformers.

Lax parenting methods of better-off families present very different problems. Laxness is not *always a form of negligence*. Parents often try to compensate their children for the harshness experienced in their own childhoods. These parents would benefit from access to educators with whom they could discuss behavioural problems. This could be a function of the staffs of nursery groups, or of infant and junior schools. It could be provided in some forms of day-care for young offenders.

If lasting contacts could be made with *staffs in the form of* dialogues to explore the constraints of the environment, the hang-ups of tradition and fashion, and the growing pressures of the *current economic* crisis, then there is hope that something useful could emerge for parents.

Yours sincerely,
HARRIET WILSON,
Visiting Fellow,
University of Warwick,
Department of Sociology,
Coventry.
March 19.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Watching brief on cable television

From Mr David Widdicombe, QC

Sir, There is an aspect of cable television which has not been mentioned in any of the current enthusiastic reporting about it. As I discovered when I was in the United States recently, where cable TV is installed, the operating company can and does keep a computerised record of the viewing habits of all its subscribers. It can tell who watches what and when.

I hope the Government inquiry will examine this "1984" aspect of the system as well as the obvious benefits.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID WIDDICOMBE,
2 Mitre Court Buildings,
The Temple, EC4.
March 23.

From Mr Rory Johnston

Sir, The report on the future of cable systems published today (March 22) by the Prime Minister's Information Technology *Advisory Panel presents an* exciting glimpse of the many possible services to the public these developments will offer. However, one serious implication does not seem to have been considered at all by the Government. Cable services will greatly encourage the spread of "electronic mail", whereby communications at present sent by letter will be delivered along the cable electonically, in an instant and at a fraction of the cost.

Electronic mail can therefore be expected to take away a large part of the Post Office's current business. But the post is an essential public service and will continue to be while many people do not have a connection to a cable or the necessary terminal equipment. How can the Post Office survive with its revenue drastically cut while its costs stay the same? The postman has to *walk past your house whether he* has any letters for you or not.

Clearly a coordinated policy has to be thought out for all these communications services *taken together. This is more* difficult to achieve rather than less now that British Telecom and the Post Office have been separated. The Government has *not contemplated the problem* yet, and it must do so without delay.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. D. JOHNSTON,
49 Upper Park Road, NW3.

National Service

From Mr Christopher I. D. Simpson

Sir, I read with interest Mr Desmond Neligan's letter (March 18), concerning the use of National Service. He questioned the viability of commencing a new call-up campaign but, alas, I fear that that is as far as such dreams will go.

As he points out, in the late 1950s everyone accepted conscription as a way of life, but after such a long break a national bout of anarchy and apathy would greet any new suggestions of National Service.

At a time when all one hears about is how the Services are being cut back, and how the dole queue is growing, one could hardly expect *youths to sign up* for service only to sit around doing nothing for a majority of the time, when they can do that out of uniform.

People that do want a taste of Service life have the chance to join such organizations as the Territorials. Should a new era of conscription begin then this *country* would experience vast displays of anarchy, probably in the form of demonstrations and street riots, similar to those that we endured last summer.

In a period of much discontent amongst the younger members of the population one couldn't expect them to join the Services as another alternative to the dole queue or job creation schemes.

Yours faithfully,
C. I. D. SIMPSON,
Royal Holloway College,
University of London,
Egham Hill, Egham, Surrey.

Italian mail delays

From Mr David McCormick

Sir, Your correspondents who grumble (March 18, 20) about the Italian mail delays may simply be unlucky. Certainly, most of my own correspondence to and from Italy takes four or five days; and the record is an express packet from a small town half way down the Adriatic, which took a mere 29 hours from post office to front door.

Incidentally, express letters from the United Kingdom now go by "Swiftair" — an oddity, in that "swift" is a word very little known by foreigners — and the extra postage is £1.50, not the £1 claimed by one of your correspondents.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID McCORMICK,
122 Cambridge Street, SW1.

Death of a newspaper

From Mr C. G. Pole-Carew

Sir, Your article by Alan Hamilton (March 18) on the closure of the *Nottingham News* is inaccurate in its reporting and for a paper of your standing remarkably biased.

You have referred to më at considerable length and the company of which I am managing director, yet you did not even *have* the courtesy to elicit our version of the facts.

The strike in 1973 was *not* caused by our determination to introduce the latest printing *technology against the union's* will: the in-putting by journalists direct into computer did not in fact take place in this company until 1976. The strike was caused solely through an inter-union dispute regarding who did what *in the manufacture of printing* plates. One in five of our union staff felt sufficiently strongly in favour of the company's position that they resisted a three-line whip by the unions and remained loyal to their newspaper.

On the subject of the 1978 walkout by one-third of our journalistic staff, your reporter completely overlooks that the other two-thirds voted against any such strike on two separate occasions, since the company was at the time paying £1,000 a year more than the money for which the journalists were striking — and with an increase in the offing.

I *cannot comment on the Nottingham News* except to note without comment that a paper that has been for all practical purposes dead on its feet for two years, *has now at last been* decently buried.

They were good journalists who left us and we were sorry to see them go. Even after this time I still wish them well as individuals, but am saddened that they could have been led to such action by those who did not have to suffer the consequences.

Meanwhile, the *Evening Post and its* staff continue to produce good newspapers; the lack of union membership in the company is regretted, but has been occasioned by the print unions' taking their membership from them for no reason than to continue a pointless vendetta.

Yours sincerely,
C. G. POLE-CAREW,
Managing Director,
T. Bailey Foreman Limited,
Foreman Street,
Nottingham.
March 19.

Arab unrest in the West Bank

From Sir Anthony Nutting

Sir, The unrest on the West Bank, reported so graphically by your correspondent over the past few days, reflects unquestionably *the natural desire of the Palestinians* to be free from alien occupation. The high-handed dismissal by the Israeli occupation of the democratically *elected municipal council of* El-Bireh which sparked the latest riots was just another example of the repression meted out to the Palestinians by their conquerors *over the past 15 years*, and demonstrates the duplicity of Mr Begin's pretentions to offer autonomy to the West Bank in accordance with the *requirements of the Camp David agreement*.

In this situation is it really proper or wise for Lord Carrington to visit Israel, as he shortly *proposes to do, for the purpose* of improving Anglo-Israeli relations? Will such a visit at such a time not cause grave offence and suspicion not only to the Arab states and the Palestinians but to the entire Third World? The latest shootings of unarmed civilians by Israeli troops and the dismissal of the El-Bireh municipal council have been roundly condemned by the Israeli Labour opposition and by wide sections of the Israeli press. However much the Foreign Secretary may intend, during his *visit*, to *remonstrate privately* with Mr Begin about these repressions, the fact remains that his arrival now on a mission of friendship will be seen through*out the Arab and Third Worlds* as condoning Israel's maltreatment of the Palestinians and her contempt for repeated demands by the United Nations for her withdrawal from the occupied territories.

As far as I know, no British Government has eber unsaid the words of the 1939 White Paper, which solemnly proclaimed that the Government would regard it as "contrary to their obligations to the Arabs under the Mandate, as well as to the assurances which have been given to the Arab people in the past, that the Arab population of Palestine *should be made the subjects of a Jewish state against their will*".

That is precisely the issue today on the West Bank. That pledge still holds and Lord *Carrington is still bound by it*.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY NUTTING
1½ Disbrowe Road, W6.

From the Israeli Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

Sir, The letter of David Astor and others (March 19) includes the baseless charge that the Israel *authorities are denying the* human right to education of the Arab students in the territories under Israel's administration.

The closure of Bir Zeit University was a result of repeated violent activities by the students, culminating in the physical attack on a visiting education official. The university authorities claimed they were unable to guarantee the keeping of the peace on campus or the physical security of visitors.

As Mr Astor and his friends are aware, Israel has encouraged and assisted higher education for the local population by enabling the upgrading of high schools to university status, there having been no universities in the area prior to the establishment of the Israel military administration. Today there are four such institutions which, in addition to local students, include more than 1,000 *undergraduate students* from neighbouring Arab countries and double that number from Israel itself.

In the absence of a readiness or ability of the Bir Zeit authorities to discipline or control the riotous behaviour of the student body (activities which I believe would not be tolerated at any British university without sanction), the authorities had no alternative other than closure. To describe this as penalization of the students "for no fault of their own", is a grave misrepresentation both of Israel's motives and the situation prevailing at Bir Zeit.

Yours faithfully,
YOAV BIRAN,
Embassy of Israel,
2 Palace Green, W8.

Vatican relations

From Professor Colonel G. I. A. D. Draper

Sir, Your Religious Affairs Correspondent concludes his article, "Full relations with Vatican resumed" (March 18), with the following sentence:

Technically relations are established with the Holy See, an entity in international law independent of the Vatican State which was granted recognition by the international community by the Congress of Vienna *in 1815*.

That is a curious observation which marks some confusion of the international law position today of the Vatican State, the *Holy See*, and its incumbent, the Supreme Pontiff. The Lateran Treaty of 1929, concluded between Italy and the Holy See, in article 2 provided:

Italy recognizes the sovereignty of the Holy See in the international domain as an attribute inherent in its nature, in accordance with its traditions and with the requirements of its mission in the world . . .

By *article 26 of that treaty* Italy recognized the state of the Vatican City, in international law, under the sovereignty of the Supreme Pontiff. Thereby the Lateran Treaty created a new international law state personality, the Vatican City, with the incumbent of the Holy See, the Supreme Pontiff, as its Head of State. That state is quite a distinct international law personality from that of the Holy See, a non-state international law personality.

Thus international law knows of a state, sovereign and independent, namely, the Vatican City, and a Head of that state, the incumbent for the time being of the Holy See, namely, the Supreme Pontiff. Both are inter*national law persons, but only* the Vatican City is a personality as a state.

This would appear to be a different position from that *enjoyed by Popes before the* annexation of the papal states by the Kingdom of Italy in 1870, when the Popes were monarchs of them and, as such, equal with all other monarchs of that time, but unique in being also heads of the universal Church. The papal states, or the patrimony of St. Peter, can rest its creation from the time of Pepin-le-Bref and Charlemagne.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
G. I. A. D. DRAPER,
16 Southover High Street,
Lewes, Sussex.
March 18.

Homes safeguard

From Mr J. Bick

Sir, I write in reference to the article appearing on page 14 of today's (March 22) *Times* in which you refer to the discussion paper on home improvements which has been published by the Office of Fair Trading. You refer to the problem of long-term *guarantees*, and the *position* which arises when a company *issuing such a guarantee ceases* to trade.

Members of the British Wood Preserving Association and the British Chemical Dampcourse Association have long been worried by a manifest weakness in long-term guarantees. For example, a contractor employed to eradicate insect or fungal attack, or to install a damp course, may issue a 30-year "guarantee" and then, within a few months, go out of business. The customer, despite the ostensible protection of the guarantee, has no recourse if the work fails to be effective during the lifetime of the guarantee.

To protect the *public*, *this* association has acted as a catalyst towards the formation of a guarantee cover scheme insofar as its own and the BCDA's members *are* concerned. The essence of the scheme is that each participating member will subscribe a substantial annual sum to a trust fund which will finance *retreatment* in any property under guarantee by a member without cost to the *owner, if the member responsible* has gone out of business. Insurers have agreed to underwrite the scheme and we believe that it will give the public greater confidence in the long-term guarantees issued by participating companies. *Such* participation will be limited to the members of the two associations.

The scheme will *operate* quite independently of the two associations and for some time the acting trustees have been in discussion with the Office of Fair Trading and the Department of Trade to finalise the details. It is hoped that the scheme can commence to operate in the late spring.

Insofar as the turnover in *timber* treatment companies *is* concerned, it is a condition of membership of this association that the companies applying shall have been substantially engaged in our field for a period of not less than three years. If they are able to comply with this requirement they are subjected to a stringent examination as to their technical competence, and it is a source of satisfaction that the number of failures in member companies over the years has been very modest in relation to the overall membership.

Yours faithfully,
J. BICK, Director,
British Wood Preserving Association,
Premier House,
150 Southampton Row, WC1.

Incident in the Falklands

From Air Commodore B. G. Frow

Sir, The recent illegal landing in South Georgia by a group of Argentine scrap *merchants*, followed by the raising of the Argentine flag on this British territory, highlights the vital need to retain a British naval presence in the South Atlantic.

In this incident, HMS Endurance was alerted and could have intervened if the "invaders" had not peacefully withdrawn. After the withdrawal of this ship, 42 Royal Marines will be the sole British military presence in the South Atlantic, and without a ship they cannot exert British influence outside their base in the Falklands.

In 1977, the illegal occupation of South Thule by Argentine military "specialists" was a warning shot and, in 1982, is now followed by this provocative demonstration. Argentina has publicly welcomed the withdrawal of HMS Endurance as a sign of goodwill by Britain. *It is still not* too late to cancel this madness.

Yours faithfully,
B. G. FROW,
Honorary Secretary,
United Kingdom Falkland Islands Committee,
2 Greycoat Place, SW1.
March 23.

Romans and morals

From the Reverend Eric Mathieson

Sir, When you have been discredited, to claim a moral victory is just part of the game; and Mrs Mary Whitehouse's version of the withdrawal of the prosecution's case against *The Romans in Britain* really cannot be allowed to go unchallenged.

She claims that she has established an important point of law. She has, of course, done nothing of the kind. Mr Justice Staughton's rulings in this case are open to dispute and it will still have to be tested whether or not a judge's rulings after a *nolle prosequi* are binding.

What Mrs Whitehouse *has* achieved is to make it likely that there will be an amendment to the Theatres Act to ensure that private prosecutions like her own will no longer be possible. For this we must be grateful to her.

More serious is her apparent claim, yet again, to be the guardian of the nation's morals. Her theology in this respect is quite misconceived. It is an axiom of Christian moral teaching that one's service to the Lord must be given freely; a Christian conscience cannot be coerced. There are many examples from Christian history to show the evil that results from trying to do so.

But perhaps even more important is the disturbing thought that Mrs Whitehouse seems to think that the year of stress and anguish that she has inflicted on *Michael Bogdanov and his family* is a reasonable price to pay for the points that she was anxious to make. I cannot agree with her. Compassion and charity may *sometimes be inconvenient but*, for someone acting from a Christian conscience, they must surely be paramount.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC MATHIESON,
Vicar of St Alphege, Southwark, and Chaplain to the National Theatre,
National Theatre,
South Bank, SE1.
March 22.

Surgeon's hungry allies

From Mr S. Cresswell

Sir, Mr Dencer (March 23) tells us some interesting things about leeches. But you also find them in Burma, as many members of the Fourteenth Army and XV Indian Corps will testify.

They were also to be found on BBC2 on the very day that *Mr Dencer's letter was published* and on the back of Bogart at that!

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
S. CRESSWELL,
32 Manor Road Extension,
Oadby,
Leicester.

Upstaged

From Mr Laurier Lister

Sir, On page 13 of last Friday's edition (March 19) of *The Times Preview* it was stated that the "first staged version of the legendary MGM film, *The Wizard of Oz*, opens in London next week".

In 1969, when I was in charge of the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, *Guildford*, I presented it there for the Christmas season. I too found obtaining the rights very difficult; it took me well over six months to obtain them.

Yours faithfully,
LAURIER LISTER,
Smarkham Orchard,
Shamley Green,
Surrey.
March 20.

Measure for measure

From the Principal and the Vice-Principal (Administration) and Registrar, University College, Cardiff

Sir, On page 12 of your issue of March 19,
6 Downe House School scholars = 6.5 column centimetres
and
40 Fellows of the Royal Society = 5.5 column centimetres.

Hence,

$$\frac{DHSS}{FRS} = \frac{40 \times 6.5}{6 \times 5.5} = \frac{260}{33}, \text{ and}$$

1 DHSS = 8 FRS.

Is this the new mathematics or the new technology?

Yours etc,
C. W. L. BEVAN,
L. A. MORITZ,
University College,
Cardiff,
March 20.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 24: Mr R. B. Dorman was received in audience by The Queen this morning and kissed hands upon his appointment as British High Commissioner to the Republic of Vanuatu.

Mrs Dorman had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

His Excellency Monsieur Arouna Mounkeila was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Niger to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following Member of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Monsieur Abdou Adamou (Attache).

Madame Mounkeila had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Mr Patrick Wright (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr J. E. Jackson was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Brussels.

Mrs Jackson had the honour of being received by The Queen.

The Prime Minister of India (Mrs Indira Gandhi) had the honour of being invited to luncheon with Her Majesty.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present.

The Queen, Patron, this afternoon opened the Alexandra Wing of the London Hospital, Whitechapel.

Having been received upon arrival by the Mayor of Tower Hamlets (Councillor Mrs E. Thompson) and the Chairman, City and East London Area Health Authority (Teaching), (Mr F. M. Cumberlege). Her Majesty unveiled a commemorative plaque and toured the new Wing.

Lady Abel Smith, Mr Robert Fellowes and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Lord Rupert Nevill, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, this evening in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight from Switzerland, where His Royal Highness, as President of the World Wildlife Fund International, presided at an Executive Committee Meeting of the Fund in Gland.

The Queen was represented by Colonel Peter Hilton (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Derbyshire) at the Memorial Service for Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Ian Walker-Okeover, Bt, (formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Derbyshire) which was held in the Cathedral Church of All Saints, Derby, this afternoon.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Major C. H. Waterhouse (High Sheriff of Derbyshire.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 24: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Army Medical Corps, was today entertained at luncheon by the Director General of Army Medical Services (Lieutenant-General Sir Alan Reay) at the Headquarter Mess, Millbank.

The Hon Mrs John Mulholland and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 24: The Duke of Gloucester was represented by Mr Peter Sherrington at a Memorial Service for Mr William Pearce, the former Chief Probation Officer for the Inner London Probation and After-Care Service and HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, at St Margaret's Church, Westminster, today.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 24: The Duke of Kent, Co-Patron of the Anglo-Jordanian Society, was present this evening at the Annual Dinner at the Savoy Hotel.

Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, as Controller Commandant, today received Brigadier Helen Meechie on her appointment as Director of the Women's Royal Army Corps and Brigadier Anne Field on relinquishing the appointment.

The Duke of Kent has accepted an invitation to become chairman of the United Kingdom Committee for European Music Year in 1985.

The 151st annual general meeting of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies will be held on Tuesday, April 6, at 1 pm.

George Crane

Miss Lorraine Gray and Mr William Lindsay at the museum with the turtle.

Second resting place in 60m years

By Kenneth Gosling

A £6,000 expedition mounted by the Natural History Museum and Kingston Polytechnic has brought back from Mali in west Africa, the remains of this turtle, believed to be 60 million years old.

It requires three people to lift it, has no head or feet, is three feet long and is a valuable addition to the museum's collections.

Although the turtle is the most impressive specimen brought back from Mali, snake and fish remains are the most interesting of the several hundred items recovered, according to Mr Cyril Walker, of the museum's department of palaeontology, who led the expedition.

The team travelled 8,000 miles overland in two Land-Rovers and a Bedford truck. They discovered the skeletons of the sea snakes said to be the largest ever to be found in the world, collected fish skulls from a geological level at which fossils had not previously been found, and came back with fossils of lobsters, crabs, fish, reptiles and a mammal.

Unhappily, fossils are much sought after by entrepreneurs.

Fortunately, however, museums operate an exchange scheme so that any duplicates acquired, for example, by the Natural History Museum can be swopped with other establishments.

All the team faces now is several years' work patiently sorting, restoring and cataloguing

OBITUARY

SIR KEITH SHOWERING

Head of successful food and drink company

Sir Keith Showering, Chairman and Chief Executive of Allied-Lyons P.L.C. (formerly Allied Breweries Ltd.), a vice-chairman of Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance and a director of the Midland Bank, died suddenly on March 23 at the early age of 51.

Keith Stanley Showering was born in Shepton Mallet, Somerset, on August 6, 1930, the son of Herbert and Ada Showering. He was educated at Wells Cathedral School.

After a year at Long Ashton Research Station (a department of Bristol University), learning the chemistry of cider-making, he joined the family firm with his father, first working on the sales side and then working with his three uncles on the production of a new quality of perry. The development of a unique pack and a dramatically successful marketing and advertising campaign followed with the launching of Babycham, and the next decade made Showerings one of the most talked about commercial successes since the war.

When Showerings bought Harveys of Bristol in 1966 Keith Showering became Managing Director of the Harveys Companies and over the next seven years they multiplied their profits by ten.

In 1975 Keith Showering became Chairman and Chief Executive of what was then Allied Breweries and, over the past seven years, presided over the progressive development of that Group into the present Allied-Lyons, the tenth largest British Company and the most broadly based food and drink group in Europe.

In recent years, since the successful incorporation of Lyons, he spent much of his creative time in building up the Group's interests in Australia and the United States. In 1981 he was knighted for his services to industry.

In this full and busy life he also found time to develop many other interests — from the rugby football and boxing of his early days, to intensely successful cattle breeding, music in general, and opera in particular, and a keen appreciation of the visual arts. He was a Trustee of the Glyndebourne Arts Trust and the London Philharmonic Orchestra. He also greatly enjoyed his hobbies of shooting and fishing, and a game of bridge.

Keith Showering was a big man in every sense. He had vision and warmth and saw life in broad and generous perspectives. He had outstanding gifts for family life and friendship. He married in 1954 Marie Sadie (nee Golden), who survives him with their six children, two girls and four boys.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. N. Kelly
and Miss F. J. Pickthorn
The engagement is announced between Crispin, third son of Mr Bernard and Lady Mirabel Kelly, of 28 Carlyle Square, London, SW3, and Frances, younger daughter of Sir Charles Pickthorn, Bt, and Lady Pickthorn, of 3 Hobury Street, London, SW10.

Mr A. M. Bathgate
and Miss A. I. Parrack
The engagement is announced between Andrew only son of Mr and Mrs Donald Bathgate, of Whitchurch, Cardiff, and Anne, younger daughter of Mrs Isobel Cartwright and stepdaughter of Mr Ronald Cartwright, of Esher, Surrey.

Mr A. G. Evans
and Miss E. S. Hollingworth
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs G. A. Evans, of Chislehurst, Kent, and Sara, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. F. Hollingworth, of Ashford in the Water, Derbyshire.

Mr A. P. W. Fisher
and Miss A. B. Green
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Philip Fisher, of Malvern, Worcestershire, and Alison, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Roy Green, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

Mr M. A. J. Frisoli
and Miss J. F. Beckerleg
The engagement is announced between Michael son of Mr and Mrs A Frisoli, of Canton, Massachusetts, United States, and Johannah daugher of The Rev Barzillai and Mrs Beckerleg, of The Chaplains House, St Mary's School, Wantage, Oxfordshire.

Mr A. P. J. Gay
and Miss E. M. Haynes
The engagement is announced between Antony, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Gay, of Turnpike House, Dodington Ash, Avon, and Emma, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Haynes, of 16 Claremont Gardens, Tunbridge Wells.

Captain V. R. Law
and Miss C. Godman Irvine
The engagement is announced between Victor, elder son of Mr Harold Law and the late Mrs Anthea Nora Law of Denner Hill, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, and Carola, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Bryant Godman Irvine, of Great Ote Hall, Wivelsfield, Sussex.

Mr A. R. MacNeil
and Miss S. Collins.
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs R. MacNeil, of Great Bookham, Surrey, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. T. Collins, of Ilkley, West Yorkshire.

Mr A. G. Milsom
and Miss E. R. White
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs G. B. Milsom, of Cookham Dean, Berkshire, presently of Singapore, and Emily, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. J. White, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire.

Mr J. Prower
and Miss D. J. Marmion
The engagement is announced in Australia between Jim, son of Mr and Mrs Aubyn Prower, of Lymington, Hampshire, and Deirdre, daughter of Mr and Mrs Vincent Marmion, of Bristol.

Mr H. R. Rees
and Miss V. C. Harvey
The engagement is announced between Hugh Richard, elder son of Dr and Mrs D. E. Rees, of Beeston, Nottinghamshire, and Virginia Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. L. Harvey, of Breaston, Derbyshire.

Mr P. Waghorn
and Miss J. A. Tatham
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs M. Waghorn, of Brill, Buckinghamshire, and Jane, daughter of the late Mr P. Tatham and of Mrs J. Davey, of Monmouth, Gwent.

Mr S. A. F. Wethered
and Miss C. H. Phillips
The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Wethered, of Bedford, New York, and Christine, daughter of Mr Paul Phillips, of Houston, Texas, and Mrs Marjorie Phillips, of Katonah, New York.

Memorial services

Sir Ian Walker-Okeover
The Queen was represented by Colonel Peter Hilton, Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire, and the Duke of Edinburgh by Major Hugo Waterhouse, high Sheriff of Derbyshire, at a memorial service for Sir Ian Walker-Okeover held yesterday in Derby Cathedral. The Prince of Wales was represented by the Duke of Devonshire. The Very Rev B. Lowers, Provost of Derby, officiated, assisted by the Ven Jack Richardson, Canon Paul Miller, who led the prayers, and the Bishop of Derby, who pronounced the blessing. Sir Peter Walker-Okeover (son) read the lesson. Among others present were:

Elizabeth Lady Walker-Okeover (widow), Mr and Mrs T W Clowes (son-in-law and daughter), Miss Jane Walker-Okeover (daughter) Lady Walker-Okeover (daughter-in-law), Mrs Enid Lofts-Constable (sister).
Viscount and Viscountess Scarsdale, Ottilie Viscountess Scarsdale, Lord Roborough, Lord Margadale, Sir John and Lady FitzHerbert, Lady Ley, Sir Henry and Lady Clowes, Sir Walter and Lady Stansfield, Sir Edward and Lady Thompson, Colonel P V Radford (Derbyshire Yeomanry), Mrs Hugo Meynell, Major L A Clowes, Mr and Mrs Ralph Cobbold and Mr H K Marshall.

Mr W. H. Pearce
The Duke of Gloucester was represented by Mr Peter Sherrington at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr William Harvey Pearce held yesterday at St Margaret's, Westminster. Canon Trevor Beeson and the Rev John Williams, acting Chaplain General of Prisons, officiated. Mr William Whitelaw, CH, Secretary of State for the Home Department, and Judge Miskin, QC, Recorder of London, read the lessons. Miss Maureen Barry, Assistant Chief Probation Officer, and Mr W. B. Utting, Chief Social Work Officer, Department of Health and Social Security, gave addresses. Others present included:

Mr and Mrs G Fanstone (son-in-law *and daughter*), *Mr Leslie Pearce* (brother); Lord Boistead, Lord Hunt, Sir George Baker (representing the Family Division of the High Court of Justice), Sir David McNee, Sir Evelyn Russell, His Honour Sir Carl Aarvold, Mr D E R Faulkner (representing the Chairman of the Parole Board), Mr Graham W Smith (Chief Probation Officer, Inner London Probation and After-Care Service), Mr R Bailey (Central Council of Probation and After-Care Committees), and Mr D J Trevelyan (Director General of Prisons) and Mr A Gordon Brown.

Luncheons

St Stephen's Constitutional Club
Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was entertained at luncheon yesterday by members of the political committee of St Stephen's Constitutional Club. Lord Chelmer, president of the club, presided.

British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce
The British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce gave a luncheon yesterday in honour of Mr V. I. Simakov, of the Soviet Ministry for Foreign Trade, at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel. Mr Ralph French presided. Those present included:

The Soviet Ambassador, Mr Peter Corley, Mr G S Shchukin, Mr V I Dolgov, Mr E F Manakhov, Dr V N Chekin, Mr G A Semchenkov, Mr O V Mouradian and Mr David Beattie.

Rotary Club of London
The president, Mr Douglas Smee and members of the Rotary Club of London entertained Mr Alan Wiffen, Regional Organizer for Cancer Relief, to a luncheon at the Café Royal yesterday.

Receptions

HM Government
The Hon Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, was host at a reception given by her Majesty's Government yesterday at the Brighton Metropole in honour of the delegates attending the 4th special meeting of the International Whaling Commission.

HM Government
The Hon Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host last night at the New London Theatre at a theatre party in honour of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India.

Lord Mottistone
Lord Mottistone was host at a reception held at the House of Lords yesterday to present 19 diplomas in safety management. Among those present were:

Sir Bernard Braine, MP, Sir Hector Monro, MP, Mr John Patten, MP, Mr Ian Campbell, MP, Mr William Hamilton, MP, Mr Geoffrey Lofthouse, MP, Mr Robert McTaggart, MP, Mr David Marshall, MP, Dr Maurice Miller, MP, Mr Clive Soley, MP, Mr Ian Stewart, MP, Dr Douglas Latto, chairman of the board of governors of the British Safety Council, Mr James Tye, director general of the council, Mr Graham Cobb, Mr John Pither and Mr Alan Smith.

Dinners

Society of Company and Commercial Accountants
Mr Martin Stevens, MP, was host at a dinner held at the House of Commons last night. The president, Mr D. E. Evans, presided and among those present were: Lord Ponsonby of Shulbrede; Mr D Anderson, Mr N Baker, Mr A M Beaumont-Dark, the Hon Robert Boscawen, Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Mr J Fraser, Mr M Marshall, Mr Gordon Oakes and Mr Reginald Prentice (Members of Parliament); Mr J Mather, vice-president, Mr F J Bergin, chairman of the promotion and development committee, Mr T S T Cookson, member of council, Mr C J Coulson-Thomas, member of council, Mr J K Poole, past-president, Mr H Rich, chairman of the local centres committee, Mr G C Smith, immediate past president, Mr R F W Walwin, Mrs J G Slade, education secretary, and Mr J H Tresman, executive director and secretary (members of the society).

Basketmakers' Company
The Basketmakers' Company held an admissions court and dinner last night at Grocers' Hall. The speakers at the dinner were Mr C. Derek Wootton-Woolley, Rear-Admiral H. C. N. Goodhart, Master of the Grocers' Company, and Mr Dennis J. Robinson, Prime Warden of the Basketmakers' Company.

Anglo Jordanian Society
The Duke of Kent, co-patron of the Anglo Jordanian Society, attended the annual dinner held last night at the Savoy Hotel and was welcomed by Princess Basma Bint Talal. Among the other guests were:

The Jordan Ambassador and Mme Izziddin, Lord and Lady Molloy, Lord and Lady Westbury, Sir Stephen and Lady Miller and Sir Frederic Bennett, MP, chairman of the society, and Lady Bennett.

Ukasta
Mr William Whitelaw, Secretary of State for the Home Department, was the guest of honour at the London dinner of the United Kingdom Agricultural Supply Trade Association Ltd. (Ukasta), held last night at the Inter-Continental Hotel. The president, Mr Martin F. George, the deputy president, Mr Christopher F. Pertwee, and the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Industry, Mr John MacGregor, were the speakers.

International Maritime Industries Forum
The International Maritime Industries Forum held a dinner last night at Kleinwort, Benson Limited, 20 Fenchurch Street. The chairman, Mr J. G. Davis, was in the chair and among those present were:

Mr Iain Sproat, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department of Trade, Mr P Brongniart, Director de la Flotte de Commerce, Ministere de la Mer, Paris, Mr R A Huskisson, Chairman, Lloyds Register of Shipping, Sir Peter Baldwin, Permanent Secretary, Department of Transport, Mr M J Hawkes, vice-chairman, Kleinwort, Benson Limited, Mr S Higashi, Japan Ship Centre, Sir James Dunnett, Mr B P Shaw, Furness Withy, the Rev W J Down, general secretary, Missions to Seamen; Mr O Hoegh, Leif Hoegh and Company, Mr W Lee, Marine Navigation Company, Professor R Stoedter, Mr John T Essberger and Mr R Ilian, BP Shipping Limited (members of IMIF), and other representatives of shipowners, shipbuilders, banks and oil companies.

Central and South Middlesex Law Society

At the annual general meeting of the Central and South Middlesex Law Society held last night at the Law Society's Hall the following officers were elected:
President: Mr D. Kennett Brown; Vice-president: Mr S. B. Hammett; Secretary: Mr G. Summerhayes.

London Solicitors Litigation Association

The following have been elected officers of the London Solicitors Litigation Association: President: Mr Thomas H. Seager Berry; Honorary Treasurer: Mr Anthony J. Benbow; Honorary Secretary: Mr Arthur B. S. Weir.

Heathfield School, Ascot

The Council of Heathfield School, Ascot, announce the appointment of Mrs Sarah Watkins as headmistress in September, 1982.

Birthdays today



Mr Peter Walker, the Minister of Agriculture, who is 50.

Mr Humphrey Burton, 51; Dame Bridget D'Oyly Carte, 74; Professor Sir Raymond Firth, 81; Lieutenant-General Sir James Glover, 53; Lord Hemingford, 78; Mr David Hicks, 53; Professor Sir Norman Jeffcoate, 75; Lord Jessel, 78; Mr Elton John, 35; Major-General S. W. Joslin, 83; Sir Geoffrey Keynes, 95; Mr David Lean, 74; Sir Bernard Miller, 78 Mr Peter Orchard, 55; Sir Kenneth Peppiatt, 89; Sir George Pope, 80; Mr A. M. Quinton, 57; Mr A. J. P. Taylor, 76; Sir Frank Young, 74.

HERR KONRAD WOLF

Herr Konrad Wolf, the noted East German film director and president of the East Berlin Academy of Arts since 1965, has died in Berlin aged 56. One of his country's leading intellectuals, Herr Wolf helped to nurse the art of the young East German film to full fruition amid the growing struggles of the new post-war socialist society.

Konrad Wolf was born on October 20, 1925, the eldest son of an eminent father, the Jewish doctor and left-wing playwright, Friedrich Wolf, who like Arthur Schnitzler before him, placed his medical and psychological skills and experience of anti-semitism at the service of the drama. Forced into exile, the family moved first to France and Switzerland, and then to Russia, where Konrad was to earn military laurels as an officer in the Red Army.

Friedrich Wolf's tragedy of a Jewish doctor in Nazi Germany, *Professor Mamlock*, written and staged in Zurich in 1934 and later turned into a film in Moscow, was to play a formative role in young Konrad's life. As an eight-year-old he had acted in Wangenheim's *The Fighter* about Dimitrov and he was determined to become a film director. His father had him enrol in the Moscow Film High School, the first German to do so, as a pupil of Alexandrov and Gerasimov. Returning to Berlin on graduation and exchanging Soviet for GDR citizenship, Wolf worked as Kurt Maetzig's assistant on his film about Ernst Thaelmann. His first original film made in 1955 was a children's musical.

Ever since, whether derived from life or literature, his films reflected their maker's strongly held political and philosophical beliefs, none so strongly, perhaps, as the autobiographical *I was 19* (1968) and its sequel *Mama, I'm alive* (1976), or the Cannes "Special Jury Prize" award-winning *Stars* (1959), about a Jewish girl in wartime Bulgaria who befriended by a German soldier.

During the London screening of *Stars* in 1961 Conrad confessed one reason for his desire to remake *Professor Mamlock*. Quoting Luther's famous dictum "I could not do otherwise", he felt it his duty to his people to undo what he felt to be the harm done to them in the 1930s by the British authorities' decision to ban the film at the explicit request of the Nazi government.

Wolf had served as Military Commander of Bernau, as Cultural Officer in Military Government in Halle, and at the Soviet House of Culture in Berlin. Few persons were better fitted to know the ins and outs of the regime or to reproduce them in filmic form, as in *The Divided Sky* (1964), about the divided parts of Germany, or in *The Sunseekers* (1958), about atomic rearmament, which had to wait 12 years of government approval before being publicly screened.

He had countless honours and decorations heaped on him and treasured none so closely as the appointment of president of the Academy of Arts at the age of 40, the youngest man ever to have held the post, following in the footsteps of such eminent predecessors as Heinrich Mann, Arnold Zweig, and Johannes R. Becher.

University news

Edinburgh
Mr David Steel, MP, leader of the Liberal Party and a former president of the students' representative council at Edinburgh University, has been elected Rector of the University for 1982-85.

London
Mr Maurice F Shutler to be a visiting professor of operational research at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Strathclyde
Grants
Departments of Environment and Transport: £81,463 to Drs A McGown and K Z Andrawes for research into the development of design approaches to soil fabric systems
Science and Engineering Research Council: £65,124 to Professor D S Ross for the teaching company programme between the university and Anderson Strathclyde.

Bath
LECTURERS: P J P Antheine (engineering with French); S J Culley, BSc, Dip Appl Eng (engineering); Mrs L M S Challis, BA, MSc (humanities and social sciences); Dr O Gid, MA phD (humanities and social sciences).

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr Hugh Carless to be Ambassador to Venezuela in succession to Sir Reginald Seconde, who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Mr John Wilberforce to be British High Commissioner to Cyprus in succession to Mr P. A. Rhodes, who will be taking up a further Diplomatic Service appointment.

Mr Charles Douglas-Home, editor of *The Times*, to be a member of the board of Times Newspapers Ltd.

Mr John Grant, deputy editor of *The Times*, to be a member of the board of Times Newspapers Holdings Ltd.

Miss Margaret Vokins to be headmistress of Wentworth Milton Mount School, Bournemouth, from September 1.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Chaplin, Viscount, of Blackawton, Totnes, Devon, secretary of the London Zoological Society 1952-55 .... £83,626
Harding, Major-General Reginald Peregrine, Abergavenny, Gwent, unsettled estate £141,079
Holt, Miss Alice Barbara, of Kendal, Cumbria £226,768
Lawley, Miss Joyce Wright, of Bognor Regis £439,264
McNicol, Mrs Doris, of Sunningdale, Berkshire £602,108
Mason, Mrs Mary, of Seaview, Isle of Wright £447,117
Sloper, Mr Leonard Dell, of Devizes, Wiltshire, company director £209,578
Tufnell, Miss Doris Ellinor Star, of Odiham, Hampshire £300,311
Walker, Mrs Cecile Mary Eykyn, of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire £200,524
White, Mr Bertram Samuel, of Weybridge, Surrey £211,271
Ells, Mr Dagnall George, of Westminster £390,930

William III silver set fetches £226,800

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Family silver sent for sale by the Stirlings of Keir, in Scotland, made sensational prices at Christie's yesterday. A magnificent pair of William III silver-gilt ewers and a basin (312 oz) made by Benjamin Pyne in 1699 sold for £226,800 (unpublished estimate £100,000-£150,000) to Asprey's.

Christie's described the pieces yesterday as among the most imposing late-seventeenth-century silver to have survived. They are engraved with the arms of the Earl of Kent and his wife, the daughter and heiress of Baron Lucas of Shenfield.

The engraving is of outstanding quality and is attributed to a master of this art who is known to have taught George Vertue, but whose name has been discreetly forgotten; he went bankrupt and retired to France.

A silver toilet service made for the Hon Marion Steward, who married James Stirling of Keir in 1704, was also bought by Asprey's, at £172,800 (unpublished estimate £100,000). The 17 pieces include a mirror, jewel casket, brushes, a pin-cushion and candlesticks. The set was made by Colin Mckenzie of Edinburgh and is dated 1703. It is the only recorded complete Scottish toilet service.



The silver-gilt ewers and basin by Benjamin Pyme

Only 4 per cent of the sale of important English silver was left unsold.

Christie's book sale included the eight volumes of Gould's *Birds of Australia*, 1840-1869, sent for sale by the Royal Commonwealth Society. They were bought for £54,000 (estimate £45,000-£55,000) by Brian Chester, bidding over the telephone from Australia.

In Sotheby's sale of nineteenth-century European paintings the top four prices, ranging from £29,700 to £41,800, were paid for oriental scenes by Rudolph Ernst, Filippo Baratti and Jean-Leon Gerome. The sale was 27 per cent unsold

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

The Festival of India is now under way. For the next six months the riches of the Indian subcontinent will be on display; experts will explain to us the age-old art of slow left-arm spinning (a skill lost to the British), there will be great exhibitions devoted to the monuments of India built by Sir Edwin Lutyens, and you will be urged to eat at this restaurant not two minutes from this cinema.

This column is warmly behind the festival, and indeed we shall be sponsoring a six-hour display of temple finger-bell dancing, on Sunday mornings at the Barbican, for which a few tickets are still left.

The festival will give employment to many Britons skilled in Indian history, experts who can write programme notes, and talking heads who can go on television and give a concise account of an aspect of Indian art in about 12 minutes without going over the heads of the *Nationwide* audience or blushing violently.

This is good. Any festival that glorifies the skills of another country and gives employment to this country is good.

But let us never forget the experts who may have thriven in festivals past and now have fallen on lean days. The life-span of the demand pundit is short, and though he may wax fat for a short while on the colour magazines, the supplements that fall out of newspapers and the lucrative discussion programmes, together with a free drink from the BBC afterwards, the day will come soon when he is utterly forgotten by features editor and programme planner alike.

We are thinking of Japanese experts, men who only three months ago were pursued for their knowledge of screen paintings and whose phones now lie silent.

We are thinking of the great bonfire experts of Britain, those men and women whose creations were only last year burning the length and breadth of this island, and who now are lucky if they are asked to light someone's cigarette.

We are thinking even farther back of Chinese experts, men who know all there is to know about Tutankhamun, pundits who knew El Dorado backwards and savants to whom the Viking sagas were second nature. For every Magnus Magnusson who can resume his life in a post-Viking career structure situation, there are a hundred who cannot. For those who cannot win the Norse of the Year Show, life can be bitter indeed.

At the Moreover Home for Unwanted Pundits, set in a delightful unused wing of the *Bodleian Library in Oxford*, we can look after twenty or thirty of these poor souls, people of whom the BBC has said: "I really think we've squeezed him dry now, don't you, Norman?" People whose names bring a shudder to agents and publishers; people unwanted, yet still with a tremendous lot to offer.

We can comfort them to a certain extent by pretending that their books are still in print or that the BBC World Service phoned while they were out. But it is hard and expensive work bolstering the pride of men and women who were once in perpetual demand and are now remaindered intellects. We can, to a certain extent, retrain them as Darwinologists or people who used to know James Joyce. We can find obscure American colleges willing to look after them for a year. We can get them knighthoods.

But this work needs money, and for that we need *you*. If you have ever wondered what happens to superannuated dons, give generously to the Moreover Home, where these wonderful old folk still pursue their opinionated quarrels over the instant coffee and write unpublished letters to *The Times*.

And remember, next autumn we shall be looking after a flood of Indian culture refugees, jobless, programmeless and sinecureless.

Our work never ends. Please help it to continue.

(Cheques should be made payable to the Moreover Home Appeal Fund and sent as soon as possible. Thank you.)

SIR GEOFFREY VICKERS

Mr Nevil Johnson writes:

Your obituary for Sir Geoffrey Vickers, VC, rightly pays tribute to his courage as a soldier and his great achievements in public affairs. But it is perhaps for his writing that he will be longest remembered.

Relatively late in life he began to write about the institutions of modern society and the problems of administration. At least one of his books, *The Art of Judgement* (1965), is already regarded by many as a *classic*, offering a humane and perceptive analysis of what it means to make policy and to take decisions within institutional structures which are themselves the necessary conditions of ordered social life.

In other works such as *Towards a Sociology of Management* (1967), *Value Systems an Social Processes* (1968) and *Making Institutions Work* (1973), Vickers made further wide-ranging contributions to an understanding of what is surely the cardinal problem of our time: how to devise and sustain institutions for collective achievement in a world which gives primacy to the satisfaction of individual demands and thus tends to regard institutions as, in his own words, symbols of bondage rather than as the source of those bonds on which civilised society must depend.

The breadth of his reading and knowledge was remarkable and his sensitivity to the English language enabled him to write about administrative behaviour and organisations with elegance and clarity. On meeting him one could not fail to be struck by his unfailing courtesy and insatiable intellectual curiosity. He was that very rare combination, a man of action who was also an original thinker.

SIR RONALD BELL

Lord M writes:

Belatedly scanning Ronald Bell's obituary in your columns I was astounded to read that "he always stood on the right wing" on the issue of capital punishment, since his name had first caught my attention some years ago as author of an article in the Bow Group quarterly *Crossbow* arguing powerfully for the abolition of the death penalty.

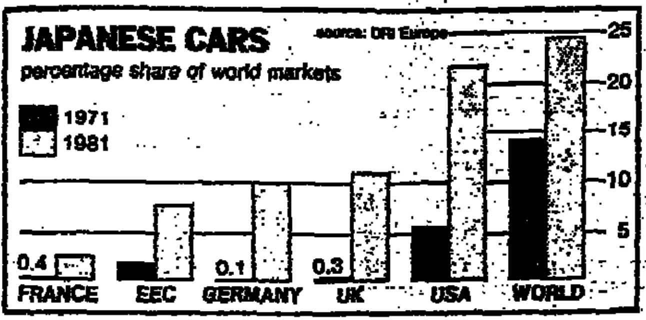
Nor were the "unpopular causes" he espoused necessarily right-wing ones. Although frequently scathing about "gay" exhibitionism and nomenclature, he supported homosexual law reform long before this cause became generally respectable in Conservative circles. His libertarian sentiments were subsequently manifested in an unflagging opposition to legislation making the wearing of crash helmets and seat belts compulsory.

One final point. Although he was not a close acquaintance, I must question your claim that Ronald Bell was "anti European". Like many of us he opposed Britain's membership of the EEC but such an attitude has never been incompatible with feelings of friendship and sometimes affection for the other countries of Europe, whether EEC members or otherwise.

Lady Barton, widow of Sir William Pell Barton, KCIE, CSI, died on March 21 in her 92nd year. She was Evelyn Agnes (Eve), daughter of J. C. T. Heriz Smith, and she was married on 1918. Her husband died in 1956.

BUSINESS NEWS

Car exports cut



The Japanese are restricting car exports to the United States, the country's foreign ministry has announced. Although actual limits are not known, it is thought they will not be higher than the 1.68 million vehicles shipped to the United States last year. Japanese cars captured 9.15 ***per cent of the United Kingdom market*** **in the first two months of this year compared with 11.47 per cent last year. New registrations in Britain were 4 per cent higher in February at 160,430 against the same month a year ago.**

Move to untangle ACC bids

Barclays Merchant Bank, Heron Corporation's advisers in its contested bid for Associated Communications Corporation, plans to ask ACC's adviser, Standard Chartered Bank, which bid price it is backing from ACC's other bidder, Mr Robert Holmes a' Court. Mr Holmes a' Court's TVW Enterprises has two bids on the table — one worth 110p a share, and another worth 95p. ***Heron has not yet decided*** **whether to increase its bid — worth 90p per non-voting share — or withdraw.**

Coal power 'breakthrough'

A world lead in the new generation of coal-fired merchant ships has been won by Doncaster-based Macawber Engineering Group, with a £500,000 order for coal feed systems for two bulk-carriers from Spain's Elcano ***shipping group.*** **Macawber is supplying systems to all six of the new coal ships at present on order or under construction. The company expects further orders from many other countries including the United States, which it expects to back coal-fired ships strongly.**

Tough budget for South Africa

Against the background of falling gold prices and world recession, Mr Owen Horwood, the South African Finance Minister, yesterday presented one of the toughest budgets for many years. It included big increases in taxes on companies, individuals *and* luxury goods and tight controls on government spending.

● London insurers paid $123m for Rosses on the Aviation Insurance Offices Association said.

● Victor Company of Japan (JVC), AEG Telefunken of West Germany and Thorn EMI have formed J2T Holdings in Rotterdam to control the manufacture of video products in Europe.

Pru profit

Disappointing results came from the insurance sector yesterday. The Prudential reported profits only marginally higher and Eagle Star pretax gain from £66m to £74m after a £10m rise in underwriting loss to £42.7m. Eagle Star, in which the West German Allianz Versicherungs

● European postal authorities are more restrictive to competition, than Britain, according to the Association of International Air Courier Services.

● Mitel has extended its contract to supply British Telecom with Private Automatic Branch Exchanges (PABXs) equipment. The minimum value of the extension is £15m.

MARKET SUMMARY

Lucas fall darkens top 30

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 562.6 down 1.7
FT Gilts 69.13 down 0.42
FT all share 326.04 up 0.29
Bargains 19,893

Lucas Industries was an outstanding fall among the top 30 shares, slipping 11p to 197p amid talk *that half year results* today would bring gloomy news.

After the apparent recovery in the second half of last year the market was looking for at least £40m in the current year. But with continuing losses in the electricals division and a flat performance from aerospace activities, the interim figures are expected to be about £10m pre tax suggesting £25m for the full year.

Elsewhere company statements brought an optimistic note to an other wise dull equity market, with the FT Index closing down 1.7 at 562.6.

Profit takers clipped up to £¾ off long dated gilts, with mediums *around £¼ easier, but shorts* ended unchanged after opening £⅛ better.

Engineering group Braby Leslie shed 3p to 63p after Anglo-Nordic Holdings subsidiary *CHI Securities took its holding to* 26.3 per cent by picking up the 14.5 per cent stake formerly held by Starwest Investment Holdings.

The board of Braby Leslie has been assured by Mr Brian Wolfson *CHI director* that it is an investment stake and that no bid is being considered.

Bestobell put on *18p to* 368p after reporting a 9 per cent boost in profits, but cable maker BICC shed 8p to 335p as profit fakers moved in after the company had succeeded in topping the £100m mark, with taxable profits of £101m.

In the insurance sector Prudential were 3p off at 233p and Eagle Star were 4p easier at 386p after heavy underwriting losses.

Fruit and vegetable wholesaler Albert Fisher put on 2p to 46p *despite turning in a half-term loss* of £20,700 against a profit of £16,500, and calling on share*holders for £385,000 through a* one for two rights issue at 20p per share.

There were gains on trading news for Rotork, 8p better at 51p, Slough Estates, up 10p at 144p and for shoe retailer Church, 5p ahead at 175p.

Meanwhile footwear manufacturer David Scott rose 1p to 29p as last week's dawn raider C. W. Bament took its stake to 20 per cent, picking up the 5 per cent it was allowed to acquire under Takeover Code rules.

Distillery shares toasted the 52 per cent profits increase at Arthur *Bell, with Bell shares 12p higher* at 186p and Distillers 4p up at 176p in sympathy.

A 90 *per cent profits boost* lifted Rockware 8p to 71p, while Sirdar put on 7p to 130p as the *Yorkshire-based knitting yarns* group raised half year profits from £2.29m to £2.93m pretax and *raised its dividend from 1.92p to* 2.27p per share.

Pearson Longman shares *continued to surge ahead, at* 306p up 15p awaiting terms from Pearson & Son, 6p better

Equity turnover on March 23 was £180.787 (21,246 bargains).

Gareth David

COMMODITIES

● March cocoa tumbled £30 to £1,009 to tonne and May ended the day *£28* down at *£1,016*, close to *the lowest* prices for nine months. Prices were depressed by unconfirmed reports that Nigeria, which is believed to have 150,000 tonnes of 1981/2 crop to sell, will be forced by falling oil prices to unload more cocoa

● After a quick slide in early morning trading when traders were disappointed by the adjournment until Monday of the International Tin Council talks on *export controls, tin prices* rallied. Cash metal was £38 higher at £7,235 a tonne and three months put on £45 to *£7,452*.

TODAY

Industry and Trade Select Committee hearing on the Post Office. Energy trends; central government *borrowing* requirement (fourth quarter); United Kingdom banking sector statistics (fourth quarter); money stock (fourth quarter).

Board meetings. Interims: A and G Security Electronics, Amalgamated Distilled Products, Fairview *Estates, Howden Group*, Lucas Industries, Saga Holidays, Strong and Fisher. Finals: Automated Security, Banro, Consolidated Industries, BBA Group, Bemrose, BSR, Cambridge Electronics, Electric and General Investments, Friedland Doggart, Leyland Paint and Wallpaper, Manders Holdings, Bernard Matthews, Metal Closures Group, Noble and Lund, Ocean *Transport and* Trading, Tricentrol, United Newspapers.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,194.31 up 96.51.
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,223.38 up 2.2.

CURRENCIES

● The French franc spent an unsettled day. The dollar, weaker at first on lower interest rates, recovered ground later. The *pound traded quietly on the* sidelines.

LONDON CLOSE

STERLING
$1.8085 up 60 points
Index 91.4 up 0.2
DM 4.3100
Fr. F 11.2500
Yen 439.00
DOLLAR
Index 114.8 down 0.1
DM 2.3865 up 20 pts.
GOLD
$332.00 up $2.50

MONEY MARKETS

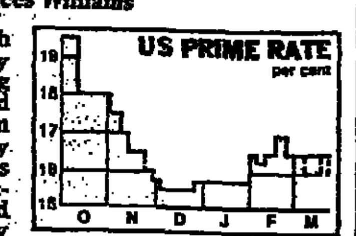
● The undertone was slightly *easier among period rates*. The Bank's final forecast was a shortage of £700m.

Base rates 13×
3 month interbank 13⁹⁄₁₆-13⁷⁄₁₆
EURO-CURRENCY RATES
3 month dollar 14⅝-14⅞
3 month DM 9¹⁄₁₆-9
3 month Fr F 29-28

Lift for franc fails to end EMS fears

By Frances Williams

A further rise in French interest rates *yesterday* finally succeeded in lifting the franc off its permitted *floor* within the European Monetary System, helped by a weaker dollar. But there is no sign that foreign exchange markets have revised their opinion *that an early* EMS realignment is on the cards.



Hopes that lower interest rates in the United States may pave the way for further cuts elsewhere in Europe received encouragement from easier short-term American rates and news that a small American bank, Southwest Bank, of *St Louis*, had cut its prime lending rate from 16½ to 16 per cent.

The Bank of France yesterday raised its call money rate from 17 to 18 per cent, the highest level since October last year. The move was widely *expected after the* bank's decision on Tuesday to increase the seven-day treasury *discount* rate from 18 to 20 per cent.

Euro-franc rates also rose yesterday, reflecting speculation against the currency.

The effect was to lift the franc from its EMS floor of Fr 2.62 against the Deutsche mark, *where it opened* trading, to Fr 2.6166 at the Paris fixing. It also came off its floor against the Dutch guilder. But renewed pressure from the United States during the afternoon pushed it back down to the floor twice more before the franc closed in London 1.6 per cent below its central *parity* against the Deutsche mark, well clear of the maximum permitted *divergence of 2¼* per cent.

Despite the insistence of M Jacques Delors, the French Finance Minister, that the franc will not be *devalued*, traders remain unconvinced. Many observers feel that an *EMS realignment* could come within weeks, if not days.

The Belgian franc, also *hit* by devaluation rumours, remained steady yesterday *above its EMS floor, despite* a decision by the Belgian National Bank to leave its discount rate unchanged.

The dollar was weaker for most of the day, after a lower Fed funds rate the United States key money market *rate on* Tuesday and easier Eurodollar rates, though it picked up towards the end of trading. After opening in Europe at around DM 2.3750, it ended the day 20 points up at DM 2.3865.

Nigerian curbs cause business confusion

By Rupert Morris

The Kuwait cabinet, at an emergency meeting yesterday, discussed the sheikdom's oil strategy.

This coincided with reports that last week's meeting in Vienna of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries had clamped an 800,000 barrels a day ceiling on Kuwait's production.

Kuwait had a target *of 1.5* million barrels a day for this year. However, the glut on the international oil market forced it to an estimated daily average of 655,000 barrels — the lowest in the country's history.

A *Kuwaiti Finance Ministry* report earlier this week warned that Kuwait, which had a budget *surplus* of $5,000m last year, will be facing an annual deficit of at least $3.5m by the end of the decade even if it managed to *maintain its oil production* at one million barrels a day.

Nigeria's Central Bank ordered all commercial banks on Tuesday that no existing *letters of* credit — the means for financing most imports — were to be extended or renewed, and no forms required for the release of foreign exchange were to be registered.

The Central Bank wants banks to give details of foreign exchange commitments and import bills by next Tuesday.

The action has been prompted by Nigeria's inability *to* sell enough of its relatively expensive oil at a time of world glut. Oil is its main source of foreign currency.

Kuwait reviews oil strategy

British companies were in a state of confusion yesterday over the Nigerian government's decision to issue no further letters of credit for *imports*.

British Caledonian, which had just concluded an £18m deal to lease a Boeing 747 for the Nigerian route, said yesterday it was stopping the carriage of cargo other than personal effects.

Reagan seeking broad powers over trade

From Bailey Morris, Washington, March 24

The Reagan Administration requested broad, new trade powers from the United States Congress today but stopped short of endorsing controversial protectionist legislation designed to limit *the flow of imports into* American markets.

Mr Brock told members who support "recirpocity" legislation designed to close United States markets to goods from certain countries that the administraton wanted more power to limit trade in services but not trade in products.

The White House position was worked out earlier this week at a *special* Cabinet meeting at which trade experts argued successfully against new restrictions on trade *in goods* which would violate the General Agree*ment on Tariffs and Trade* (Gatt).

"We must not enact laws *which will force United* States trade policy to require bilateral, sectoral or product-by-product reciprocity," Mr Brock said, declining to endorse legislation introduced by Senator John Danforth, chairman of the sub-committee.

Stock Exchange raises charges by only 4.2pc

Fears over brokers' fees

By Kevin Page

The Stock Exchange Council *decided yesterday to maintain* minimum commissions on small sales of shares at £7. The original plan envisaged the minimum charge rising to £10.

Last week, the council bowed to pressure from the *investing* institutions and raised charges across the board to give stockbrokers' income a boost of only 4.2 per cent against the 7.3 per cent increase *proposed* earlier this year.

Unveiling the new scale of charges, the council *said* they could not be described as excessive since inflation had risen by 88 per cent since the last adjustment of commissions in 1975.

However, the *Stock* Exchange warned it was un*likely the increases* would maintain brokers' income in real terms.

The new charges would also fail to arrest the decline *on the number of member* firms.

As the chart shows, commissions at the lower end of the scale will rise from 1.5 per cent to 1.65 per cent, up 10 per cent compared with the 16.7 per cent originally *proposed*.

Rises at higher level bargains have also been cut.

The minimum charge on gilt sales rises from £4 to £7. The council has gone some way to meet objections from institutional investors about the cost of switching in and out of Government stocks.

COMMISSION RATES

Consideration £	Making £	Commission Old £	Commission New £
2,000	2,000	30.00	33.00
500	2,500	37.50	41.25
1,500	4,000	60.00	66.00
1,000	5,000	75.00	82.50
2,000	7,000	105.00	115.50
2,000	9,000	115.00	126.50
1,000	10,000	120.00	132.00
5,000	15,000	145.00	159.50
10,000	25,000	195.00	209.50

Oil men open N Sea tax fight

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

The big North Sea oil companies are preparing to *launch an new and unprecedentedly* severe attack on the oil tax regime in the wake of *the Budget. They will* claim that the Chancellor's decision not to reduce the overall level of taxation has badly damaged Britain's chances of remaining self-sufficient in oil until the end of the century. They will also say *that virtually every discovery* now being made by the industry is uneconomic or only marginally commercial.

Shell UK, the single most active North Sea operator, paved the way for the new campaign yesterday when it announced a 58 per cent decline in profits last year from £373m to £158m. The company *said it was having* to reassess the economic viability of three or four accumulations of oil in the northern North Sea, each with recoverable reserves of 100 million to 150 million barrels.

Mr John Raisman Shell's chairman and chief executive, attacked the Chancellor's decision to replace Special Petroleum Duty with a system of advance payments of Petroleum Revenue Tax, maintaining the overall *North Sea tax take.*

He said it was not in the long-term interests of the country. "It is unlikely to stimulate the extension of oil self-sufficiency into the next decade, or indeed into the next century" he warned.

The *tax regime*, already attacked by the chairmen of BP and Lasmo, is expected to be raised at the next meeting of the United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association, representing all the major companies involved in the North Sea. They will demand an urgent meeting with the Chancellor and Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy.

Raisman: attacked oil tax decision.

The companies will point out that profitability of *existing fields has ben cut by* an average of 30 per cent from what it was before *Special Petroleum Duty* was introduced last year. There are also about 30 "marginal" discoveries, containing enough oil to meet Britain's *needs for up to a decade*, that are now unlikely to be developed in the present climate of falling oil prices and high taxes, the industry claims. No new commercial fields have been discovered *since 1976*.

The industry is also unhappy with some aspects of the changes to the structure of North Sea taxes made by the Chancellor earlier this month, and will accuse the *Government of not doing* anything to help the development of marginal fields.

Euroflame directors ousted

By Margareta Pagano

Three directors of Euroflame Holdings, the log stove company which is the subject of a Department of Trade inquiry, were yesterday deprived by a board resolution of all executive authority and directed not to take part in any part of the business of the company or its subsidiaries after they had refused to resign from the board.

They are Mr John Viall, who claims still to be chairman and managing director, Mr Iowerth Jones and Mrs Gabrielle Jones. All are believed to be seeking legal advice.

The board also resolved to call an extraordinary general *meeting as soon as possible* to consider the removal of these directors. The news comes after last Friday's announcement that Euroflame (UK) the main operating subsidiary of Euroflame Holdings, had put itself into voluntary liquidation

State industry chiefs in pay row

By Peter Hill Industrial Editor

Another row is looming between the Government and the heads *of Britain's* nationalized industries over salary levels in the public sector. A White Paper published yesterday showed that few *chairmen exceeded a 7 per* cent wage increase.

Salary levels for the chairmen and senior board members of nationalized industries have proved a constant problem to both Labour and Conservative Governments.

Successive Governments have held down salary increases as part of formal or *informal incomes policies*. This has led to compression of salary levels between board members and executives who report to them, and a widening of the gap between rates of remuneration between the public and *private sectors of industry.*

Until 1980 salaries in the public sector were dealt with by the *Top Salaries Review* Body which, in its last report, before nationalized industry salaries were removed from its responibilities, recommended a 20 per cent increase. The Prime Minister, in line with the *Government's policy* of making the public sector corporations more efficient, decided that senior directors' remuneration should be more closely related to varket rates. But despite the TSRB's recommended increase, rates in 1980 rose by only 9 per cent.

A new mechanism was *established under which the* salaries of chairman would be determined by nonexecutive directors on the boards of public corporations with recommendations then made to the sponsoring minister, and the new regime watched *over by the now disbanded* Civil Service Department.

Publication yesterday of the White Paper *Public Boards 1982* confirmed that few chairmen managed to exceed the 7 per cent.

Mr Philip Shelbourne, chairman of *British National* Oil Corporation, continues to head the public sector league table, while Mr. Ian MacGregor, chairman of British Steel, has declined a salary of £53,000 which has been available to him since April, 1980.

Although comparisons are odious, the public sector salaries compare unfavourably with rates of remuneration in the private sector

Public Boards 1982, Command 8526, HMSO £4.00.

Institute calms fears over new technology

Chips impact on jobs 'minimal'

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

The silicon chip is having little impact on employment, a report on microelectronics in British industry, says.

The study, which was carried out by the Policy Studies Institute and backed by the Government. *Quashes* fears of some unions that electronic automation is destroying large numbers of jobs and the belief of some information technology enthusiasts that the chip will create many new jobs.

The PSI team, led by Mr Jim Northcott, looked at 1,200 companies *for the* study, which was funded by the Department of Industry and three private foundations. The results, related to the whole of industry, showed a net gain of 16,000 jobs up to the time of the survey (early last year). Companies introducing microelectronics *into their products* added 23,000, but that was partially offset by a loss of 7,000 jobs in companies automating their manufacturing *processes*.

However, the 18 month period after the survey was expected to show a net loss of 14,000 jobs, *based on the* companies' plans for introduction of microelectronics. A gain of 10,000 in product applications versus a loss of *24,000 in processes.*

The report says: "The estimated total gain or loss represents less than a quarter of 1 per cent total *employment* in manufacturing at the time of the survey — a percentage very much smaller than the annual rate of labour turnover in all industries and far less than is normally thought feasible to absorb through natural wastage."

These estimates, the report says, should not be regarded as accurate but they needed to be wrong by a wide margin for these *losses to be* a component in Britain's unemployment troubles.

Only 30 per cent of factories employing more 20 people have introduced or are planning to introduce electronic chips into their products or their production processes, the report says. "Half the non-users them*selves agreed* there is scope for applications in their kind of business — yet they are not using any, they are not developing any, they are not planning to do so in the future."

The survey team, which was working under a committee chaired by Sir Charles Carter, made the ominous discovery that the number of companies starting work on *microelectronic applications* fell back in 1980, after increasing in each of the previous five years.

Another worrying discovery *was* that *foreign*-owned companies in Britain had a microelectronics application rate two-thirds higher than their British-owned *counterparts*.

The biggest practical problem mentioned by the companies was lack of specialist skills.

Microelectronics in Industry: What's Happening in Britain is published by PSI, 1-2 Castle Lane, London SW1.

Squeeze at the tuckshop . . . and a lesson in history

Pocket money cut adds to sweet problem

The intriguing statistic that youngsters' pocket money has been cut 16 per cent this past year has implications for a wide range of sectors, from toys to confectionery, Derick Harris writes. There were three illustrations from company results yesterday in the soft drinks and confectionery sectors.

Maynards manufactures confectionery, much of it sugar-based and selling in the lower price ranges where sales to youngsters are strong. Volume was up 2.5 per cent in United Kingdom sales but, particularly with sugar prices artificially high because of European Community structuring, profits suffered.

There could have been trading down in the pocket money market, said Mr David Martin, company secretary. The company's toy retailing sales were hit.

With Maynards expansion the turnover rose more than 20 per cent in the half year while profit pretax at £1.36m declined more than 10 per cent on the comparable period of 1980. The dividend was unchanged at 3.125p.

Sugar-based confectionery, has shown sales declines of at least 2 per cent in the past year while chocolate varieties have risen marginally.

That lies behind the performance of Hales Owen-based Blue Bird Confectionery Holdings in the West Midlands but the problem of shrinking pocket money is also an element, according to Mr Edward Nassar, Blue Bird's chairman. Blue Bird's home sales in the half year were down 9.8 per cent although exports have leaped by a half.

In the half year to last July a marginal loss was turned to a pre tax profit of £200,899 on a £4.8m turnover. The dividend was unchanged at 1.45p.

Manchester-based J N Nichols (Vimto), had final pre tax profits of £2.56m, compared with £1.884m in the previous nine months, effectively a near 5 per cent increase. Final dividend was up 3p to 10p.

It could have been caught like many other soft drinks manufacturers with sales downturns put at 10 per cent overall.

But Nichols has strongly penetrated the supermarket multiples and widened its drinks range.

Statistics from: *Pocket Money Monitor*, Birds Eye Wall's 1982, based on Gallup research.

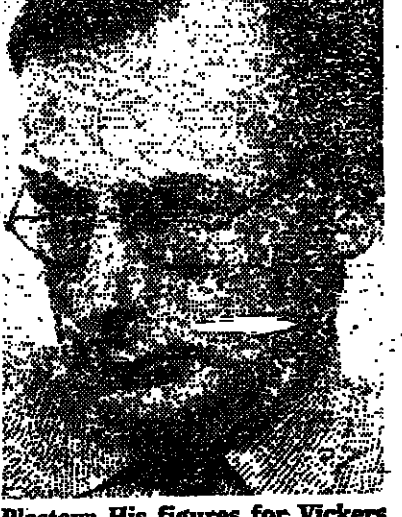
Vickers looks overseas

Confidence positively shines from Vickers' chief executive, David Plastow as he details the group's new strategy: "The world business area is a key around which we are planning" (Sally White writes). As with so many other major British groups, the latest figures give a hint of further cuts at home and expansion abroad.

Vickers is still a long way from realizing its top executives' hopes for the engineering, Rolls-Royce cars and office equipment group: that was the signal being read from the one for four rights issue to raise £23m that accompanied the 1981 profit figures.

Investors holding sares in Vickers are cautious, because of the vast amount of British industrial history it incorporates. Return on capital employed is around 11 or 12 per cent, against a target of 15 to 17 per cent in the short term. Achieving that means a lot of commercial evolution, for which, it seems, not enough cash is being generated by the Vickers business yet.

Yesterday's figures — the first full year under the new management team, transferred from Rolls-Royce after the 1980 merger — show sales up from £595m to £603m and pretax profit up by £5m to £24.6m when £8.9m interest

Plastow: His figures for Vickers hint at expansion

received in 1980 on nationalization compensation is excluded. The dividend is maintained at 12p after a 7.45p final, leaving the share price down ½p at 159 and the yield 10.8. The rights issue price is 133p.

Vickers could have another major move up its sleeve — so. Vickers followers deduce from two clues they see in yesterday's announcements. First, the maintenance of the dividend — which cynics say is effectively being funded by the rights issue. Secondly, the rights issue is less than expected. Ambitions for acqusitions are voiced in the report. So, it is suggested Vickers could want to keep up the share price to make an acquisition for paper, and then come back for more cash. An engineering contractor could satisfy Vicker's desire to generate more of its profits overseas, and would, virtually, be a low cash consumer. (Interest payments, net are a horrific £18.3m in 1981.)

Vickers were bowed down by the weight of running out-of-date chunks of steel, shipbuilding and a disorganized office equipment side when it merged with Rolls-Royce in 1980. Rolls-Royce was desperately short of cash, but run by a highly regarded managment team which included chief executive David Plastow and Tom Neville.

The new team's efforts to reduce staff and unprofitable businesses — 2,700 more were made redundant this year — are applauded. Mr Plastow has refocused simplified the operation of the business by organizing 40 operating subdsidiaries into five divisions. He has produced incentive schemes to re-energise the lower tiers of management.

Rolls-Royce cars did best of Vickers' activities — the fall in the pound helped sales of the new Silver Spirit in the United States. Staff have been cut back by 350. So far this year overseas sales continue to do well.

The lithographic plates business is run by the Howson-Algraphy Group, a Vickers subsidiary.

Progress of trading profit at operating group level

	1979	1980	1981	Howson-Algraphy Group Trading profit	
	£m	£m	£m		£m
Engineering equipment	9.5	17.3	11.5	1976	6.8
Cars	10.5	8.7	16.2	1977	9.1
Lithographic plates	8.9	9.0	7.1	1978	10.2
Engineering products	4.9	5.9	3.2	1979	10.3
Overseas engineering	(0.1)	3.4	5.2	1980	9.0
				1981	7.1

Lithographic plates and supplies is seen as a growth business, but it is only just starting to pick up again.

INTERNATIONAL

UNITED STATES

General Motors has told suppliers it is considering a change in the method of acquiring steel. While the company declined to elaborate, industry observers are speculating on a switch from order-type to bid-type purchasing.

● The president of the United Auto Workers predicted that the union's General Motor Council will approve tentative contract concessions with the corporation today.

● Four hundred unemployed Detroit car workers are to be retrained in aerospace jobs with the help of a $300,000 (£166,600) Federal grant. After learning new skills, they will be taken on by the Rockwell corporation to build the long-range B-1 bomber.

JAPAN

As Japan's economy continues to falter, the Japan Economic Research Centre, a leading private research institute, has predicted that inflation-adjusted growth in both 1981 and 1982 will fall far short of government projections.

● Japan will send an official buying mission to France and Austria in May to buy more goods to try to rectify Japan's trade surplus with both countries.

WEST GERMANY

West Germany's import prices index rose 0.7 per cent last month to stand 4.6 per sent higher than a year earlier, the lowest year-on-year rise since February 1979. This followed year-on-year gains of 6.9 and 9.5 per cent respectively in January and December

IVORY COAST

With the arrival in its coastal waters last week of the "Dan Duke" oil production rig, the Ivory Coast could become one of the world's net oil exporters. The rig will be used to bring into produciton the "Espoir" offshore field and is expected to produce 30,000 barrels a day.

CANADA

Canadian motor manufacturs have scheduled an output 18,913 cars for assembly this week down from 22,345 last week and 20,328 in the same week last year. American Motors — Canada is to produce 600 cars which is down 610 last week and 781 a year ago.

BELGIUM

The business climate in the European Community deteriorated last month, ending a three month trend of improvement; the European Commission reports. Its indicator of business confidence fell one point to minus 14.

BRAZIL

Brazil's per capita gross domestic product fell 5.8 per cent in 1981 over 1980, the first fall in 16 years, the central bank reported. Total gdp was down 3.5 per cent while the population grew 2.4 per cent in the year.

FRANCE

French industrial production fell 3 per cent on a provisionally adjusted seasonal basis in January after a 1.5 per cent rise in December.

AUSTRALIA

Australian production of uranium oxide last year was almost double the 1980 level because of output from the new Ranger Mine in Northern Territory.

ITALY

A spokesman for Fiat in Turin said there are no talks, and none have taken place at any level, on the possibility of Fiat taking a share in International Harvester.

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BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

'This would have been worse than the Wall Street crash...'

Swift action as fear mounts in the City

In the second of two articles on the secondary banking crisis of the mid-1970s Margaret Reid describes how the massive rescue operation was put together and assesses the cost

The Cedar Holdings crisis, which led the Bank of England and City institutions to put together a £72m rescue package in an attempt to stop panic, had not come as an unexpected shock to City of London insiders. They knew that, in the previous three weeks of disturbed conditions, many hard-pressed secondary banking companies had lost short-term funds through depositors switching cash to the safe haven of the large banks in what Mr Richardson, the Bank of England's governor, later called "a fit of collective prudence". These other banking businesses, often also in acute anxiety about how they would present their accounts for the end of the year, had urgently made known their troubles to their clearing banks, which had provided some first-aid through stand-by borrowing facilities. Many had also hastened to the Bank of England, whose Discount Office was operating a system of early warning of impending trouble, under which information was swapped among the big banks more readily than in normal conditions.

As a result of these worrying developments, the Governor had already been discreetly in touch with the chairmen of the large High Street clearing banks and had even held a secret meeting with them the previous afternoon while the Cedar marathon was under-way elsewhere in the Bank. At this gathering, the possibility of a joint rescue operation, involving up to £1,000m of support loans for the secondary banking sector, should the atmosphere of crisis not abate, had been mentioned.

The fact that news of Cedar's rescue, so far from calming the atmosphere, provoked mounting fear in the City about the situation of many other secondary banks opened the way for a crucial decision. Up to this stage, the Bank of England had retained some hope that the gathering crisis could be tackled piecemeal, by wrestling with the problems of individual banking companies. But now, in the view of those at the head of the Bank of England, events pointed unmistakeably to the need for a more generalized attack on the emergency.

Action was swift. The chairmen of the Big Four clearing banks were called secretly to a meeting with the governor on the afternoon of Friday, December 21.

Fringe banks were not the only worry for the clearing bank chairmen who attended this crucial session. The world was in economic turmoil at the end of 1973. A State of Emergency was in force in Britain because of an impending industrial confrontation with the miners, threatening a fuel shortage in addition to the emerging prospect of steep rises in world oil prices. The clearers, already heavily lent after the 1971-3 boom, and with new "corset" curbs just imposed on them in the mini budget were concerned how they were to meet all calls upon them.

They were worried lest the panic which was affecting the secondary banking community should reach even the big clearers and the long-established merchant banks. Could these leading banks themselves be caught up in the avalanche which was threatening to bring down a crop of smaller banks? "This would have been worse than the Wall Street crash of 1929, which British banking had survived so well", one senior clearer afterwards reflected. All these considerations inclined the clearers' chiefs to give a responsive hearing to the central bank's plans.

At the crucial summit meeting presided over by Mr Richardson, the Bank's governor, on Friday December 21, business was completed with much more despatch than in the crowded mid-week marathon about Cedar, though the decision arrived at was vastly more far-reaching. The secret gathering lasted just 90 minutes. The chairmen present with Mr Richardson and Sir Jasper Hollom, the deputy governor, were Sir (then Mr) Eric Faulkner, chairman of the Committee of London Clearing Bankers (CLCB) and of Lloyds Bank, Sir Archibald Forbes, the Scottish industrialist and chartered accountant who chaired the Midland Bank, Sir (then Mr) John Prideaux, the National Westminster Bank chairman, and Sir (then Mr) Anthony Tuke, who had become chairman of Barclays Bank in succession to Sir John Thomson less than two months earlier. The clearers' chairmen were accompanied by chief or senior general managers from their banks, while the governor and deputy governor were supported by senior Bank of England colleagues.

Mr Richardson formally proposed that the Bank should organise an operation whereby the clearing banks would jointly provide support loans to hard-pressed secondary banks to fill some or all of the gap left by the flight of funds from them. He pointed to the risk to the banking system of a further spread of alarm and stressed the need for a team effort to fend off the current dangers. It was an appeal both to common interest and the national interest.

Depositors of money with appropriate secondary and fringe banks were generally all to be protected, since it would be impossible, or at least undesirable, to limit this help to small personal depositors only. It was important that the rescue operation should also guarantee the position of big depositors, since any failure by a fringe bank to pay back large money market deposits would have damaging repercussions on the creditor which had lent the money. The idea was that shareholders, as distinct from depositors, in the troubled secondary banks were not entitled to direct protection of their interests, although, of course, they would often be indirectly helped by the proposed support plan.

Essentially, the proposition was for a 're-cycling' arrangement. Since depositors had been withdrawing their deposits from the secondary banks and confiding them to the safe keeping of the large clearing banks, the idea was that the clearers should, on conditions, jointly lend money back to the secondary concerns. The fear that these fringe banks' assets might prove too deficient to finance full repayment of this aid, or might shrink so that they became so, was not uppermost in the banking chiefs' minds at the time. However, it was a feature of the scheme unfolded by the governor that the combined support pool should be used to give hard-pressed secondary banks time for recovery and not to postpone the insolvency of non-viable fringe concerns.

The clearing bank chairmen readily enough accepted the governor's plan.

With the crisis at the pitch it had reached, there was an obvious consensus that this was not the time to linger over apportioning responsibility.

So far from mutual recrimination, the theme by the time of the governor's meeting was one of cooperation to fend off a crisis whose dangers were by then unmistakeable, but whose potential was still incalculable.

Before this historic meeting broke up, the bankers approved the draft of a carefully worded press notice to be issued by the Bank later in the afternoon of December 21. The decision to launch the 'Lifeboat' — as the combined support operation was to become familiarly known — had been taken.

Altogether 25 secondary banks eventually clambered on board the Lifeboat. (Henry Ansbacher was accorded the right to draw on the Lifeboat but never did so.)

The ownership structure of this part of the secondary banking industry changed after the onset of the crisis. Of the 25, eight collapsed and another, Sterling Industrial Securities, was radically scaled down under the Crown Agents' supervision and later sold. Of the rest, no fewer than eleven had by the early months of 1981 passed, in whole or substantial part, under the control of larger groups, a process which generated much repayment of Lifeboat loans by the new owners. Several, including some later taken over, had recovered under their own power and dispensed with Lifeboat backing, which in one or two cases had been brief and indirect. But by late in 1980, only a handful of the 25 remained as independent entities in the banking business. Lifeboat lending had been cut to some £500m by the end of 1979 when only United Dominions Trust, First National Finance Corporation and Knowsley were borrowers; this figure had been further reduced a year later, mainly through large repayments by UDT.

After the big clearing banks had decided in August 1974 that they could not agree to the joint Lifeboat operations lending being extended beyond about £1,200m, the Bank of England itself shouldered major responsibilities in dealing with later troubles. In particular, it committed large amounts to the support of the financial groups Slater Walker Securities and Edward Bates. Sir Jasper Hollom, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, told a House of Commons select committee in 1978: "The heavier losses are outside the Lifeboat."

The Bank of England put aside a remarkable total of about £100m for the possible cost to itself of the whole rescue strategy, while the clearing banks may still face a bill of up to perhaps £50m, also already provided for in their accounts, for their own participation in the Lifeboat operation. These possible losses — as distinct from the much larger support lending, which was mostly ultimately repaid — show the magnitude of the burden the support operations may involve for those who conducted them.

The total provision of finance — as distinct from possible losses — involved in controlling the banking and related property crises was very large indeed. In addition to some £1300m advanced through the Lifeboat, large loan resources were used by the Bank of England and by various investing institutions and banks to sustain further millions of pounds more were supplied by the large banks to keep property groups afloat through this time of trial and to enable them to complete developments optimistically begun in the boom years. Much had later to be written of against interest and repayment not received; the big banks' provisions against their property lending in this period certainly exceeded £100m. The total finance exceptionally provided must have run into bilions of pounds: some estimates suggest it was £3000m.

The Governor ... to the rescue.

THE LIFEBOAT — WHO GOT ON BOARD

Secondary banks helped with loans through the joint operation run by the Bank of England and clearing banks

Company	Total assets (£m)	Experience in crisis
(Banking status, and whether shares quoted on the Stock Exchange: in each case as at end of 1973)	(Last balance sheet up to end of 1973, unless otherwise stated)	(Including maximum amount of support loans, if known, and sequel
Audley Holdings section 123 co. (subsid, of Cornwallis Estates, afterwards in liquidation; ultimate holding co. Kayrealm, afterwards in receivership). Not quoted	2	Provided with support loans. Receiver appointed May 1975.
Beverley Bentinck Listed bank (finance house). Not quoted, (Now British Credit Trust, owned by Bank of Ireland. Until May 1978, subsid, of Northern Foods). Shares of successive parents quoted.	38	Had some loans, backed by support group; these later repaid. Taken over in May 1978 by Bank of Ireland from Northern Foods for £11m
Bowmaker Listed bank (finance house) and section 123 co. (Subsid. of C. T. Bowring, whose shares were quoted; Bowring group, including Bowmaker, taken over in 1980 by Marsh and McLennan of the US)	243	Received support loans within £89m maximum. Left Lifeboat in autumn of 1975, when remaining support loans were repaid and co. received a new medium-term loan from major banks and the Bank of England
British Bank of Commerce section 123 co., whose shares were quoted. (Now Grindlays Bank (Scotland), owned by Grindlays Bank)	59	Received support loans of £13.9m at the peak. Taken over in September 1974 for £3.3m by National and Grindlays Bank (now Grindlays Bank)
Burston Group Burston Finance subsid., a section 123 co. Group's shares were quoted	100	Burston Finance provided with support loans. Receiver appointed to it in Feb. 1975. 65 per cent holding of Group in Burston & Texas Commerce Bank taken over in 1975 by Texas Commerce Bank of the US, which already held 35 per cent. Parent co. afterwards in liquidation.
Cannon Street Investments (Cannon Street Acceptances subsid., a section 123 co.). Parent co.'s shares were quoted. Quotation still suspended end of 1980.	122	Cannon Street Acceptances received support loans up to £20m; receiver appointed to it in Sept. 1974. CSI reconstructed as subsid. of National Westminster Bank.
Cedar Holdings section 123 co. Was quoted	128	Loans of up to £22m made available by Barclays Bank and financed through Lifeboat. These loans part of package by which institutions also put up £50m. Capital reconstruction 1975. Loans repaid within following few years. Taken over by Lloyds and Scottish in 1979 for £9.6m.
David Samuel Trust section 123 co. Not quoted	38	Provided with support loans. Receiver appointed May 1975. Went into liquidation Nov. 1976.
Duboff Brothers section 123 co. (Consolidated Finance Holding ult. hld co.). Not quoted	9.5	Loan facility, initially of £2.5m, and ultimately of £6.7m, provided by National Westminster Bank, for a time under wing of Support group. Co. sustained losses leading to £2.66m deficiency by end of 1978. Settlement in 1979 under which £2.2m repaid and Natwest claim to over £4.5m assigned, against £50,000 payment leaving co. with positive shareholders' funds
Edward Bates and Sons (Holdings) Edward Bates and Sons subsid., a section 123 co. (Listed bank from Dec. 1973). Holding co. was quoted.	74	Received some support loans in autumn of 1974, Lifeboat buying out part of shipping loan portfolio. Sizeable Arab shareholding, and Middle East deposits, from May 1975. Later, reconstruction under which part of business, recapitalised, emerged as Allied Arab Bank, with predominantly Arab shareholder and Barclays Bank International stake. Bank of England took over remaining assets of Bates bank for realisation through EBS Investments, now a Bank of England subsidiary. Holding co. in liquidation.
First Maryland section 123 co. (Ultimate holding co. owned by Mr W G Stern and his family trusts). Not quoted.	18	Provided with support loans. Receiver appointed in Jan. 1975.
First National Finance Corporation Listed bank (afterward section 123 co.) Quoted.	543	Received support loans totalling £350m at peak. Capital reconstruction end of 1975, under which support loans divided into direct, deferred and income loans, with defined terms. Support loans reduced to £225m at 31 Oct. 1980. Net deficiency of £79m (30 Apr. 1977) more than halved to £29m (31 Oct. 1980). Extensive programme of realisation of property and certain other assets undertaken.
Guardian Properties (Holdings) Was quoted.	48	Provided with support loans. Receiver appointed June 1974.
Keyser Ullmann Holdings (Keyser Ullmann subsid., a listed bank). Holding co.'s shares were quoted	433 (31 Mar. 1974)	Received support loans, of £65m at peak. Loans repaid by 1976. Stand-by facilities from clearing banks provided for a time thereafter; dispensed with from Jan. 1977. Taken over for some £43m in 1980 by Charterhouse Group, into whose Charterhouse Japhet bank KU banking company being absorbed.
London and County Securities Group Banking subsidiary a section 123 co. was quoted.	129	Received support from a special consortium and afterwards received Lifeboat support loans. Joint co. planned by Bank of England and FNFC in Feb. 1974 to run the banking co. Announced in Mar. 1975 that banking company to be placed in liquidation; its total deficiency estimated at over £50m. Group was the subject of a Dept. of Trade investigation (report published Jan. 1976). Holding co. in liquidation.
Medens Trust section 123 co. Not quoted	11 (30 June 1974)	Clearing bank borrowing facilities fixed up in late-1973 were continued with backing of support group. Borrowing facility provided by institutional shareholders used briefly and further available bank standby facility never required. Co taken over by merchant bank group Brown Shipley Holdings in 1981 for £3.8m
Mercantile Credit Subsid. a section 123 co. Was quoted	377	Received support loans of £167m at peak. Loans repaid when co. taken over by Barclays Bank for £32m in 1975
Morris Wigram section 123 co. (afterwards Schlesinger). Not quoted	30	Received support loans of about £10m. Taken over for a nominal price in 1974 by Schlesinger Organisation, which repaid the loans. Schlesinger bank bought in 1980 by Slavenburg's Bank, of Holland
Northern Commercial Trust section 123 co. Not quoted. (Authority Investments, quoted, held 27%)	90	NCT (apart form London loan business) taken over in 1975 by Algemene Bank Nederland, of Holland. Support loans of some £32m, previously provided to NCT, transferred to Knowsley, by which London business of NCT taken over. Support loans on reduced scale still outstanding at end of 1980 to Knowsley
Knowsley section 123 co. (wholly owned by Authority Investments)		
Sterling Industrial Securities section 123 co. Not quoted	33	Received Lifeboat loans and larger support loans from Crown Agents, a substantial shareholder. Co. became the subject of a controlled running down of its business under the aegis of the Agents. Later sold
Triumph Investment Trust G. T. Whyte banking subsid. a listed bank Group shares were quoted	203	Provided with support loans (from Lifeboat) of up to some £30m and some £5m, in addition to an existing deposit of £5m, from Crown Agents. Receiver appointed Nov. 1974. Now in liquidation.
Twentieth Century Banking section 123 co. Not quoted. (Owned from 1972 by Bovis, now subsid. of P&O). Both successive ultimate parents quoted	62	Received support loans. Acquired as part of Bovis group, by P&O in Mar, 1974.
United Dominions Trust Listed bank. (Old Broad Street Securities subsid. a section 123 co.). Quoted	896	Received support loans of some £500m at peak. Prudential Assurance and Eagle Star Insurance put up bulk of £30m against convertible stock in 1974. Property lending cut right back and a range of overseas interests disposedof from 1974. In 1980, agreement for instalment credit business to be bought by Trustee Savings Banks. Remaining support loans almost fully repaid in 1980. Full take-over bid of £110m by TSBs successful in early 1981
J. H. Vavasseur Vavasseur Trust subsid. a section 123 co. (Group now part of Mills and Allen international) Quoted	52	Received support loans. Two capital reconstructions. Remaining support loans repaid, with the help of a clearing bank loan, in 1979. Co. effectively absorbed into Mills and Allen International in 1978
Wagon Finance Corporation Listed bank (finance house). Quoted	43	Received support loans, of some £8m at peak; these were repaid in 1976. Co. then accorded loan facilities, including some medium-term, from a number of banks and accepting houses

Adapted from "The Secondary Banking crisis, 1973-75", by Margaret Reid, published today by The Macmillan Press, price £20.

Business Editor

Non-executive directors

One is tempted to say the sooner the ACC situation is resolved and forgotten the better. Certainly, that must be true from the point of view of the company's business and its employees.

If Mr Gerald Ronson decides that enough is enough and it is time to pull out, then the struggle may indeed be quickly resolved. He may, of course, opt to stay in the battle, in which case the saga could run on a while longer.

It would be wrong though to wish the whole episode quickly forgotten. The ACC saga ought to provide a key case history on boardroom behaviour. The Department of Trade may or may not see fit to ensure that such a history is written. But if it does not, then it would be a public service were one of the former non-executive directors to have the courage to put pen to paper, for the role of the non-executive directors is one of the more interesting aspects in all that has happened.

With the benefit of hindsight the ordinary ACC shareholder must find it hard to believe that the non-executive directors in ACC have acted over the years in quite the watchdog fashion for which they might justifiably have hoped. Moreover, they may now wonder whether those directors who have just resigned have done so simply because they have found the heat in the kitchen becoming rather too much.

In fact, that may not be fair. There are times when resignation can be the most useful form of protest and the most immediate way of bringing matters to a head.

That said, at a time when the tide of opinion is rightly favouring a more positive role for non-executive directors, the ACC situation highlights one particular kind of dilemma: the autocratic executive in need of a watchdog, yet at the same time a watchdog with insufficient drive or power to act as an adequate leash.

Nigeria
Under siege

The announcement that Nigeria has suspended virtually all imports comes as no surprise. But the repercussions on suppliers to Africa's most populous nation will cause more than a few headaches, particularly to Britain. Britain remains the biggest exporter to Nigeria, wth shipments in recent years running at more than £1000m — accounting for about one fifth of Nigeria's non-oil imports.

As one of the largest oil producers and exporters, Nigeria has fallen victim to the international glut of oil and the consequential fall in prices. For many other Opec members the glut and drop in prices can be tolerated, at least for a while, without unduly interfering with ambitious economic development plans.

But the impact on Nigeria's industrial development programme and aspirations of the civilian Government of President Sheu Shagari has been little short of disastrous, predicated as they were on a high oil price continuing.

The country's trade deficit has been running at about £333m a month and oil production has fallen from about 1.8 million barrels daily at the beginning of this year to about 1.2 million barrels this month.

President Shagari tried to tackle the incipient problems in his Budget statement last November by imposing import controls and delaying priority projects in the public sector spending programme which form a key feature of the Naira 80,000m (£41,000m) fourth development plan.

Yesterday confusion continued to surround the Central Bank's order to commercial banks in Nigeria to halt the issue of letters of credit and 25-03ssing of applications for foreign exchange.

Officials at the International Monetary Fund denied speculation that Nigeria might be seeking a U.S. dollars 4,500 million loan from the Fund.

But clearly pressure is building up for tough action to be taken to iron out the imports and payments crisis now dogging Nigeria's aspirations and a devaluation of the Naira by perhaps as much as 12.5 per cent is not ruled out. Resolution of Nigeria's economic difficultiesis of paramount importance not only to the international trading community but to President Shagari's hopes for a second term in next year's election contest.

Prudential
Problem areas

The dire conditions in the general insurance industry were firmly underlined by yesterday's results from both the Prudential and Eagle Star — in the Pru's case with a dash of red ink.

For the first time in years its general insurance side made a loss — £8.2m compared with the previous year's £2.5m profit — resulting, by the Pru's own admission, in a decidedly poor set of results. Group profits were only marginally ahead from £42.5m to £43.2m, although the dividend still goes up by nearly 14 per cent.

Once again the life business has powered ahead. Premiums were 16 per cent higher at £1,187m, investment income grew strongly and life profits were some two-fifths higher at £41.5m. But on non-life the Pru came badly unstuck.

Overcapacity, the recession, and inadequate premium rates contributed to the problem. So did calamitous winter weather though, despite this, the domestic property account still reduced losses. Canada also produced a soaring underwriting loss. But the real bugbear has been the specialist reinsurance subsidiary, Mercantile & General, which accounted for more than two-fifths of the increase in underwriting losses from £34m to £59m.

This year the Pru may find that premium income growth on the lfe side slows and lower interest rates are likely to affect investment income. But there are grounds for some modest optimism on the non-life accounts on the back of some hardening of rates in Canada and improvement in the United Kingdom domestic account.

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

BICC

Growth in fibre optics

BICC, Britain's leading cable manufacturer, exceeded market expectations with a 37 per cent leap in taxable profits from £74.6m to £101.9m in the year to December.

This was due to a strong performance from the international division, where profits rose from £40.8m to £69.8m pre-tax.

Dividends for the year are raised by 10 per cent with a 10p a share gross final making a total of 14.72p against 13.39p.

The group spent £73m on acquisitions during the year, financed by the £72m rights issue, but Sir Raymond Pennock, chairman, said the group would now sit back and get profits from them before making further acquisitions.

At 338p, down 5p, the shares yield 4.4 per cent and stand on a price earnings multiple of 13.4.

ARTHUR BELL

Profits cheer

Whisky industry sales are down at least 10 per cent this year, but Arthur Bell bucked the trend. Its pretax profits soared 52 per cent to £14.8m in the half year to December as total group sales rose 15 per cent to £146.5m. Turnover from Scotch whisky alone was 5 per cent higher to £133.9m and the stock market responded by putting 12p on shares to 186p — the high for the year, after the dividend was raised to 2.42p from 2.21p gross.

Trading profits rose £4.1m to £17.7m with the proportion from Scotch whisky up to £14.5m from £10.2m. The balance comes from a turnround in the glass container division — to £222,000 against a loss of £560,000 and transport activities up £44,000 at £114,000.

PHILIPS LAMP

Bright competition

Under pressure from intense worldwide competition and the high cost of restructuring, net profits of Philips Lamp, the Dutch electronics giant, crept up last year by just 3 per cent to Fl 357m (£75.2m). Sales grew by 16 per cent to Fl 42,411m.

The distribution to shareholders is maintained at Fl 1.80. Of this, Fl 0.60 is an interim dividend, Fl 1.00 a final and Fl 0.20 is to be paid from retained profits.

HEPWORTH

Dividend held

Hepworth Ceramic Holdings, makers of plastic pipes, vitrified clay and refractory products, saw pretax profits rise to £24.14m from £22.3m for the year to December 1981, but its share price fell 6p to 110p as the City had been expecting profits of around £25m.

Sales were up to £289.7m against £263.2m due to the contribution from the £12.5m United States acquisition, Western Plastics. But, in real sterling terms, sales were 13 per cent lower, Mr Peter Goodall, the chairman, reported.

The dividend has been held at last year's level, with a proposed pay-out of 4.28p gross. This makes the total dividend 7.5p gross, as last time.

□ Slough Estates finished the year to December 31 with pre-tax profits 18 per cent up at £13.47m. Its industrial portfolio stands at about 20 million sq ft and its share trade at 39 per cent discount to net asset value.

□ Falsifications in the 1980 accounts by a former employee of a Berwick Timpo subsidiary was disclosed yesterday when full year figures showed losses of £457,000 compared with pre-tax profits of £1.07m last time on turnover depressed by £1.2m to £13.22m. The final dividend is passed leaving a half-year payout of 2.86p and 8.57p gross in 1980.

□ A stronger dollar contributed to a 24 per cent increase in pre-tax profits for Laing Properties, at £8.7m for the year to December 31.

Investment properties income was £11m, compared with £9.4m last time. Directors are recommending a final net dividend of 2.75p which with the interim takes total payment to 4.5p a share.

□ Clive Discount Holdings is selling half its 20 per cent stake in International Discount, a discount house in Singapore, for £520,000.

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div. pence	Pay date	Year's total
Armstrong Equip (I)	54.3(48.85)	1.3b(0.74)	—(—)	0.35(0.55)	—	—(1.49)
Arthur Bell (I)	146.5(137.5)	14.8(9.77)	12.8(10.5)	1.7(1.55)	—	—(5.49)
Bestobell (F)	122.3(119.1)	8.47(7.72)	28.1(33.9)	7.6(7.1)	3/6	13(12.25)
BICC (F)	1,604(1,364)	101.9(74.6)	25.2(23.1)	7.04(6.4)	1/7	10.3(9.4)
Blue Bird (I)	4.81(5.02)	0.2(0.2b)	3.28(2.4)	1.4(1.4)	—	—(3.3)
Church & Co (F)	35.56(32.24)	1.55(1.95)	20.2(28.6)	6(5.5)	—	8.5(8)
Richard Clay (F)	18.9(18.2)	0.95b(0.58)	13.1b(7.87)	1(1.4)	—	1(3)
Clifford's Dairies (F)	55.8(49.47)	3.3(2.15)	20.13(21.95)	3.5(2.75)	21/5	5(4)
DRG (F)	534.9(520.3)	15.5(18)	7.2(9.6)	3(3)	5/7	6(6)
Eagle Star (F)	—(—)	73.8(65.9)	—(—)	8(5.5)	15/7	15(10.5)
Albert Fisher (I)	3.08(1.97)	0.02b(0.01)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(0.31)
Hepworth Ceramic (F)	289.7(263.2)	24.1(22.3)	10(10.2)	3(3)	1/7	5.2(5.2) A.
Jones (F)	16.14(15.31)	0.29(1.12)	33(84)	26(26)	—	26(26)
Jones & Shipman (F)	16.66(22.19)	0.63(2.15)	5.8(11.6)	1.05(2.6)	—	1.8(3.6)
Laing Props (F)	—(—)	8.7(7.0)	8.8(7.2)	2.7(2.5)	—	4.5(4)
Percy Lane (F)	22.8(19.6)	0.83(0.68)	7.4(8.8)	2(1.6a)	1/6	3(2.5a)
Maynards (I)	39.05(1.38)	1.36(1.52)	—(—)	3.1(3.1)	7/5	—(9.37)
J. N. Nichols (F)	12.08(14.8c)	2.56(1.84c)	25.4(20.8c)	5.5(4c)	—	10(7c)
Philips Lamp (F) (d)	42,411(36,536)	357(345)	1.97(2.01)	1.2(1.2)	—	1.8(1.8)
Prudential (F)	—(—)	43.2(42.5)	14.6(14.2)	8(7)	—	12.5(11)
Rockware (F)	162(170)	0.89(0.47)	2.61(0.29)	2.1(2.1)	—	2.1(2.1)
Rotork (F)	21.9(20.3)	2.84(2.75)	6.8(9.1)	1.3(1.1)	21/5	2.45(2.2)
Sirdar (I)	15.45(14.36)	2.92(2.29)	7.7(5.5a)	1.6(1.35a)	18/5	—(3.5a)
Slough Ests. (F)	—(—)	13.4(11.4)	7.65(6.62)	2.07(1.6)	24/5	3.3(2.7)
Berwick Timpo (F)	13.2(14.44)	0.46b(1.07)	8.5b(21.1)	—(—)	—	2(6)
Vickers (F)	603.6(493.2)	24.6(28.6)	22.7(34.8)	7.4(7.4)	1/7	12(12)
James Walker (I)	12.45(11.59)	0.29b(0.67)	—(—)	1.0(1.0)	—	—(4.0)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a Adjusted for scrip issue; b Loss; c For 9 months; d Figures are in Dutch florins.

PEOPLE

Sir Keith noted for kindness

The sudden death of Sir Keith Showering, 51, chairman and Chief executive of Allied Lyons since 1975, robs his family, friends and business associates of a man who "played up, and played the game" in the very finest English tradition.

A sportsman on and off the field, he will be remembered as much for his qualities of kindness, charm and consideration as for his outstanding career achievements both in and outside the City.

Sir Keith's colleagues were yesterday deeply shocked and saddened at the news of his passing: "It is a personal loss to each of them, and a loss to the company of a chairman who had considerable experience and a keen business brain," said Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, vice-chairman of Allied.

A fellow-director of Allied, Sir Alex Alexander, chairman of J Lyons & Co., praised Sir Keith as "a considerable man in every sense, in whom courage, ability and vision all combined to have a considerable influence in the worlds of industry, commerce and the arts".

It was in 1947 that Sir Keith, son of one of the founding brothers, joined the famous Somerset cider-making firm of Showerings Ltd, which through a series of acquisitions ultimately gained control of Allied. He was also vice-chairman of Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance, a director of the Midland Bank, and was knighted in the Birthday Honours last year.

Sir Keith combined a love of shooting and a keen interest in firearms collecting with the true countryman's concern for wildlife conservation. Since 1978, he had been a major shareholder in the gunmaker Holland and Holland.

"He was an extremely loveable, kind and affectionate person," recalls Mr Malcolm Lyell, the managing director and a good friend.

Buckley enters the family act

Barrister Martin Buckley takes his place in a century-long family tradition this year when he appears as co-editor of that standard legal work *Buckley on the Companies Act*.

Published by Butterworth (at £150) when this work was first produced in 1872 "Buckley" was Martin Buckley's grandfather, Lord Justice Buckley, later Lord Wrenbury.

Lord Wrenbury saw editions one to nine to press (the ninth edition came out in 1909) but the tenth edition (1924) was edited by non-Buckleys. However the eleventh and twelfth were edited by Sir Denys Buckley, Lord Wrenbury's son and Martin's uncle. The thirteenth edition in 1957 was done by Sir Denys' co-editor Brian Parker and others, among them Hugh Williams also a grandson of Lord Wrenbury.

Martin Buckley who is co-editing this fourteenth edition (with Brian Parker) explained that the book involves more work than most non-Buckley barristers are willing or able to combine with practice at the Bar.

There will be a swing from age to youth indeed at British Transport Docks Board in May when Sir Humphrey Browne, who by then will be 71, hands over chairmanship to his 41-year-old deputy Keith Stuart. Sir Humphrey, who has been chairman for 11 years, was asked to stay on in 1980 to see the board, Britain's biggest dock operator with 19 provincial docks,



Sir Humphrey Browne

through to privatization. At that time, it looked as if privatization would be going through about now, but now that it is now, it now looks as if the autumn of this year is a more likely date. Sir Humphrey is therefore stepping down as this stage so that the signature on the prospectus can be that of the man who is both in charge and likely to be in charge for some time.

Nicholas Cole

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Chris Lonberg has been appointed chief executive of Simon Engineering. He takes over from **Mr Harry Harrison** who remains chairman.

Mr Ian McIntosh Henderson has been appointed group commercial director of News International. Mr Henderson is currently finance director of C. T. Bowring's insurance broking activities in London and has held senior financial positions with Brascan and Unilever.

Mr Christopher T. Woodcock has been appointed a director of Kirkland-Whittaker (Sterling Brokers).

Mr Charles R. Connell and **Mr David A. R. Stewart** have been appointed as directors of the Scottish Provident Institution.

COMMODITIES

COPPER: Higher grade copper was steady. — Afternoon. — Higher grade cash, £859-40.00; three months £866.50-67.00; Sales: 6,175 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £835-37.00; three months, £862-63.00; Sales: nil tonnes. Morning. — Higher grade cash, £859-40.00; three months £866-66.50. Settlement, £840.00. Sales 4,800 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £836-37.00. Three months, £862-64.00. Settlement, £837.00. Sales 400 tonnes.

TIN: Standard tin closed steadier. — Afternoon. — Standard cash, £7145-55 a tonne; three months £7365-70. Sales, 1,20 tonnes. High grade, cash £7160-62; three months £7380-7400. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning. — Standard cash £7150-40; three months £7350-55. Settlement, £7140. Sales, 520 tonnes. High grade, cash £7130-40; three months, £7380-7400. Settlement, £7140. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, SM30.34 a picul.

LEAD was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £337-38.00 per tonne; three months £346.50-47. Sales, 2,875 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £335.50-36.00 three months £345.50-46. Settlement £336.00. Sales, 2,600 tonnes.

ZINC was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £429-29.25 per tonne; three months £434.50-35.00. Sales, 4,225 tonnes. Monrning. — Cash £1428.50-29.50; three months £434-35.00. Settlement, £429.50. Sales, 3,800 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £176.65 ($319.50) a troy ounce.

SILVER was barely steady. — Bullion market (fixing levels). — Spot, 402.70p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 728.50); three months, 415.70p (754.10c); six months, 427.70p (779.20c); one year, 455.50p (833.80c). London Metal Exchange. — Afternoon. — Cash, 401.2-1.7p; three months, 414.5-14.8p Sales, 37 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning. — Cash, 403.5-4.5p; three months, 417.2-17.8p. Settlement, 404.p. Sales, 40 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £556-57.00 per tonne; three months, £578.50-£79.50. Sales, 8,050 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £556-56.50; three months £578-78.50. Settlement, £556.50. Sales, 3,700 tonnes.

Afternoon.—Cash £3075.85 per tonne; three months £3126.29. Sales. 198 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £3085.90; three months £3125.28. Settlement, £3090. Sales, 240 tonnes.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Mch 1375-1380, May 1197-1198, Jly 1158-1159, Sep 1140-1141, Nov 1132-1136, Jan 1125-1135, Mch 1112-1125. Sales: 5208 lots including 30 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton). — March, 1005-1014; May, 1016-1017; July, 1044-1045; Sept, 1075-1077; Dec, 1106-1107; March, 1140-1141; May, 1156-1158. Sales: 3,963 lots, including one option. ICCO prices: daily (March 23), 84.56c; indicator price (March 24), 5-day average, 86.01c. (US cents per lb.)

SUGAR. — The London daily price of "raws" was £1.00 higher at £153; the "whites" price was £1.00 higher at £169. Futures (£ per tonne): May, 160.10-160.20; Aug, 163.30-163.40; Oct, 168.25-168.50; Jan, 171.50-172.50; March, 177.00-177.25; May, 180.50-180.60; Aug, 183.50-183.60. Sales: 3,957 lots. ISA prices (March 23): daily, 11.28c; 15-day average, 11.29c.

GRAIN. (The Baltic). — **WHEAT.** — Canadian western red spring, No. 1, 13½, unquoted. US dark northern spring, No 1, 14 per cent: April-May 10, £112.75; May £113; June £112.75 trans-shipment east coast sellers. US hard winter, 13½ per cent, unquoted. EC, unquoted. English feed fob: March £116 east coast; April £118.50 Bristol Channel; May £120.50 east coast sellers.

MAIZE. — March £133 trans-shipment east coast. S. Africa white: April-May £79.00 seller. S. Africa yellow: April-May £79.00 seller.

BARLEY. — English feed fob: March £111 paid Lowestoft; May £114.50 east coast seller. All cif U.K. unless stated.

EUROSYNDICAT: The Eurosyndicat index on European share prices was put provisionally at 138.99 on March 23 against 136.36 a week earlier.

WALL STREET

New York, March 24. — Prices opened higher today in active trading on the New York Stock Exchange. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was ahead by 1.14 points to 827.81 shortly after the market opened.

Advances outnumbered declines by 479 to 310, among the 1,194 issues crossing the NYSE tape.

Early turnovers reached about 3.83m shares. Brokers are encouraged by the market's four-day surge, but many warned that profit-taking may become a factor in this session because of the recent large gains.

The rally has been bolstered by lower interest rates and some "bargain hunting" following a long decline.

Several large "block trades" lately have indicated that institutions were involved in the market. Some of that has been a matter of traders replacing borrowed shares they sold earlier in hopes the market would go down

	Mar 23	Mar 22
Allied Chem	32¼	33
Allied Stores	29½	28⅞
Allis Chalmers	12⅝	12⅞
Alcoa	24¼	24½
Amax Inc	27⅞	28¼
Amerada Hess	19⅝	19⅝
Am Airlines	14¾	14¼
Am Brands	40⅞	40½
Am Broadcast	31¼	30¾
Am Can	26⅝	27
Am Cyanamid	28	25¾
Am Elec Power	17¼	17⅜
Am Home	35⅞	34⅝
Am Motors	3⅜	3½
Am Nat Res	32⅞	31⅝
Am Standard	28	27⅝
Am Telephone	57½	57⅞
AMF Inc	17⅞	17⅝
Armco Steel	21	21½
Asarco	20¾	21⅛
Ashland Oil	21⅜	21⅜
Atlntic Richfield	38½	38⅝
Avco	14⅝	15¼
Avon Products	24⅞	24⅝
Bankers Tst NY	34	32⅞
Bank of America	19	18⅞
Bank of NY	38½	37⅞
Beatrice Foods	19¼	18⅝
Bendix	52⅞	53¼
Bethlehem Steel	22	21¼
Boeing	18¾	18⅝
Boise Cascade	28¼	28¾
Borden	31¼	32¼
Borg Warner	22½	22¾
Bristol Myers	55⅜	58¾
BP	21	20⅝
Burlington Ind	19¾	19⅝
Burlington Nthn	43⅛	43¼
Burroughs	34⅝	34½
Campbell Soup	33¾	34½
Canadian Pacific	25	25¼
Caterpillar	49⅞	48¾
Celanese	50¼	50⅞
Central Soya	11½	11½
Chase Manhat	57	56¾
Chem Bank NY	51½	51
Chrysler	5¾	5⅞
Citicorp	27⅜	26⅞
Cities Service	27	26¾
Clark Equip	24	23⅝
Coca Cola	33⅞	32
Colgate	18¼	18½
CBS	40¼	40¼
Columbia Gas	30¼	28⅝
Combustion Eng	26⅞	26
Comwlth Edison	21	21
Cons Edison	35	34⅞
Cons Foods	32¼	32
Cons Power	17⅜	17⅝
Continental Grp	30⅝	30¼
Control Data	32⅞	31⅝
Corning Glass	42⅜	43
CPC Intnl	37¼	37½
Crane	24½	24⅞
Crocker Int	27⅜	27¼
Crown Zeller	24¼	24¾
Dart & Kraft	50½	50
Deere	31⅝	31¾
Delta Air	32¾	32⅞
Detroit Edison	11½	11½
Disney	52¼	52⅝
Dow Chemical	24⅝	24¼
Dresser Ind	24¼	23⅝
Duke Power	23	22⅞
Du Pont	34⅝	33⅞
Eastern Air	6	6⅛
Eastman Kodak	72⅝	72½
Eaton Corp	28⅞	28½
El Paso Nat Gas	24⅛	24⅝
Equitable Life	9½	9½
Esmark	47⅜	47¼
Evans P. D.	12⅞	12¾
Exxon Corp	28⅞	28¾
Fed Dept Stores	42⅜	42⅝
Firestone	10½	10½
Fst Chicago	17⅞	17⅞
Fst Intrst Bncp	28¾	28¼

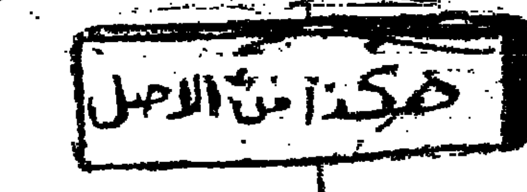
	Mar 23	Mar 22
Fst Nat Boston	41⅛	40½
Fst Penn Corp	2⅝	3⅛
Ford	21⅛	21⅛
GAF Corp	13⅝	13⅝
Gen Dynamics	24¼	25
Gen Electric	61¾	60⅝
Gen Foods	33⅞	32⅞
Gen Mills	38	37⅞
Gen Motors	41¼	40¾
Gen Pub Util NY	4⅞	4⅞
Gen Tel Elec	29½	29⅝
Gen Tire	19¼	19⅝
Genesco	5	4⅝
Georgia Pacific	17¼	17
Getty Oil	47	47⅛
Gillette	35¼	34½
Goodrich	19⅝	19¼
Goodyear	21⅛	21⅜
Gould Inc	23	22⅝
Grace	37⅛	38¼
Gt Atltc & Pacific	5½	5⅝
Greyhound	14½	14⅞
Grumman Corp	24¼	24½
Gulf Oil	32	31⅞
Gulf & West	15⅛	15⅛
Heinz H. J.	29¼	29
Hercules	20¾	19⅝
Honeywell	69⅝	69¼
IC Inds	30⅛	29½
Ingersoll	48¼	48¼
Inland Steel	22½	22¾
IBM	59½	59
Int Harvester	5¼	5⅛
INCO	12	12⅝
Int Paper	33¼	33¾
Int Tel Tel	24½	25¼
Irving Bank	41⅝	41½
Jewel Co	32⅝	32
Jim Walter	16⅞	18⅝
Johnson & John	36¼	36⅜
Kaiser Alumin	14⅝	14⅛
Kerr McGee	29	28⅝
Kimberly Clark	62	62¾
K Mart	18⅝	18⅝
Kroger	28¾	28½
L.T.V. Corp	14⅛	14½
Litton	48	47⅞
Lockheed	48½	48½
Lucky Stores	14¼	13⅞
Manuf Hanover	32⅝	32½
Manville Cp	14	14
Mapco	27¾	26½
Marathon Oil	75⅝	75⅝
Marine Midland	22⅝	21¼
Martin Marietta	26⅝	26⅝
McDonnell	34	34¼
Mead	21⅛	20½
Merck	74⅝	74
Minnesota Mng	54¼	52¼
Mobil Oil	23½	23⅝
Monsanto	64½	63½
Morgan J. P.	55	53⅝
Motorola	57⅜	57½
NCR Corp	41⅝	42
NL Industries	24¼	23⅝
Nabisco	33½	32⅞
Nat Distillers	21⅞	21⅝
Nat Med Ent	14¼	14½
Nat Steel	19	19¼
Norfolk West	46	45½
NW Bancorp	28⅝	21⅞
Norton Simon	20⅝	20⅛
Occidental Pet	20⅝	20⅝
Ogden	33⅝	34⅝
Olin Corp	19⅛	18⅝
Owens-Illinois	24⅝	24⅛
Pacific Gas Elec	21⅛	21⅛
Pan Am	3¼	3⅜
Penney J. C.	35	34½
Pennzoil	35¼	35⅝
Pepsico	35⅝	35½
Pfizer	54	54¼
Phelps Dodge	24⅛	23⅞
Philip Morris	46⅝	46½
Phillips Petrol	28⅝	28⅝
Polaroid	18⅝	18⅝
PPG Ind	31⅞	31⅛

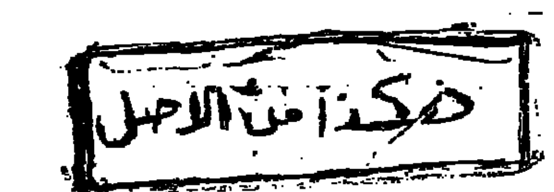
	Mar 23	Mar 22
Proctor Gamble	81	80
Pub Ser El & Gas	20	19⅛
Raytheon	33½	33⅞
RCA Corp	21⅜	21⅝
Republic Steel	21⅞	21⅝
Reynolds Ind	45⅝	45¾
Reynolds Metal	19¾	20
Rockwell Int	27⅞	28¼
Royal Dutch	31⅝	32
Safeways	29¼	28½
St Regis Paper	25⅝	25½
Santa Fe Ind	14½	14¼
SCM	23⅜	22⅞
Schlumberger	44¼	44
Scott Paper	16¾	17
Seagram	53⅝	51⅛
Sears Roebuck	18⅞	18⅝
Shell Oil	36⅝	34¼
Shell Trans	26⅝	26¾
Signal Co	20⅛	20½
Singer	14⅝	14⅝
Sony	13⅝	12⅞
Sth Cal Edison	32	31⅞
Southern Pacific	34⅝	34⅝
Southern Rly	86⅝	85⅝
Sperry Corp	29¼	29¼
Std Oil Califnia	32½	33¼
Std Oil Indiana	38¼	38⅜
Std Oil Ohio	34¼	34⅝
Sterling Drug	35¾	29¼
Stevens J. P.	14½	14⅝
Sun Comp	32⅝	31⅝
Teledyne	118¾	120¼
Tenneco	27½	27⅞
Texaco	30½	30⅞
Texas East Corp	44⅛	43½
Texas Inst	81⅝	82⅝
Texas Utilities	21½	21½
Textron	21⅝	21½
TWA	20¾	21¼
Travelers Corp	49⅞	48⅝
TRW Inc	48⅞	47⅞
UAL Inc	19¼	19¼
Union Carbide	48⅝	48½
Union Oil Calif	31⅛	31½
Un Pacific Corp	37¼	36
Uniroyal	7⅛	7⅜
United Brands	9¼	8¾
US Industries	8¼	8¼
US Steel	24⅝	23¾
Utd Technol	35	34¼
Wachovia	23	22½
Warner Lambert	23¼	23½
Wells Fargo	23⅝	23⅝
Westnghse Elec	23⅝	23⅝
Weyerhauser	27	26¾
Whirlpool	28¾	28¾
Woolworth	17¼	17¼
Xerox Corp	37⅛	37⅛
Zenith	12⅞	12⅝

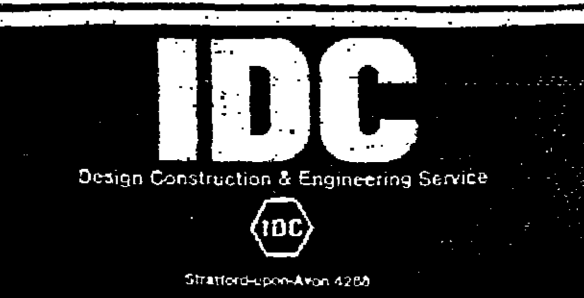
Canadian Prices

Abitibi	19	18⅝
Alcan Alumin	23½	23¼
Algoma Steel	34	34
Bell Telephone	19	18¾
Cominco	47½	47⅝
Cons Bathurst	15⅝	15
Gulf Oil	12¾	12¾
Hawker/Sid Can	10⅝	10⅞
Hudson Bay Min	19½	19
Hudson Bay Oil	48	48
Imasco	42½	42½
Imperial Oil	22¾	22
Int Pipe	15½	15⅝
Mass.-Fergsn	2⅝	2⅝
Royal Trust	13¾	13¾
Seagram	64	63½
Steel Co	23¼	23¼
Thomson N 'A'	23¼	23¼
Walker Hiram	19½	19⅝
WCT	14	13⅞

*Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.







Stock Exchange Prices

Gilts easier

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 15. Dealings End, March 26. § Contango Day, March 29. Settlement Day, April 5.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days



1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
174	108	Magnet & S'thns	166	..	7.1	4.3	11.9
217	97	Man Agcy Music	119	+3	12.5	10.5	10.1
205	96	Man Ship Canal	96	..	..	..	..
154	72	Marchwiel	132	+2	9.4	7.1	10.4
153	106	Marks & Spencer	153	+1	5.8	3.8	20.8
51	33½	Marley Ltd	47	..	3.2	6.8	13.1
37	14½	Marling Ind	35½	..	1.4	4.0	24.8
50	22	Marshall T Lox	48	..	4.0	8.3	4.3
48	21	Do A	44	..	4.0	9.0	3.9
330	178	Martin News	330	+4	13.9	4.2	7.1
270	209	Martonair	228	..	10.9	4.8	13.3
74	48	Medminster	64	..	5.3	8.3	6.9
250	149	Menzies J.	236	..	5.6	2.4	11.8
224	128	Metal Box	176	..	16.5	9.4	15.4
125	100	Metal Bulletin	120	..	7.9	6.6	14.2
52¾	37¼	Metalrax	48	..	3.4	7.0	9.4
25	11	Mettoy	11	..	0.1	1.3	..
91	50	Meyer M. L.	69	-1	3.1	4.4	..
93	48	Midland Ind	61	..	3.7	6.1	..

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
114	79	Sumlight Serv	112	-1	3.6	3.3	9.2
52	36	Sutcliffe S'man	36	-1	..e	..	..
188	85½	Swire Pacific 'A'	96	..	..	..	..
195	140	Syltone	191	..	12.9	6.7	21.2

T — Z

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
26	15	TACE	17	..	..	..	..
121	85	TSL Therm Synd	107	+1	10.0b	9.3	18.7
25⅞	10⅞	Takeda BDR	£21⅛	+⅛	17.6	0.8	23.1
6½	2½	Talbex Grp	4⅛	..	..	..	..
478	316	Tarmac Ltd	478	+2	23.3	4.9	8.2
220	126	Tate & Lyle	202	..	16.4	8.1	5.0
607	441	Taylor Woodrow	590	..	19.0	3.5	9.8
400	250	Telephone Rent	336	..	14.6	4.4	16.7
71	49½	Tesco	62½	-1½	3.8	6.1	6.7
125	64	Textured Jersey	80	..	7.9	9.8	3.8

MISCELLANEOUS

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
46	27½	Calcutta Elec	41	..	8.8	21.4	..
34½	29	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33½	..	500	14.9	..
34	30	Gt Nthn Tele	£33	..	82.2	2.5	12.6
265	150	Imp Cont Gas	195	..	11.9	6.1	12.4
158	93	Milford Docks	139	-3	0.7	0.5	..
193	122	Nesco Inv	130	..	10.0	7.7	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33	..	500	15.2	..

* Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) 24 March	Market rates (close) 24 March	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8060-1.8125	$1.8080-1.8090	0.13-0.23c disc	0.55-0.65c disc
Montreal	$2.2050-2.2150	$2.2120-2.2130	0.45-0.55c isc	1.45-1.55c disc
Amsterdam	4.74-4.78½fl	4.77-4.78fl	3-2½c prem	6¾-5¾c prem
Brussels	80.90-81.80f	81.55-81.65f	20-35c isc	70-80c disc
Copenhagen	14.63-14.72k	14.69-14.70k	210-280ore disc	710-800ore disc
Dublin	1.2350-1.2426p	1.2375-1.2385p	55-70p disc	180-205p disc
Frankfurt	4.29-4.33m	4.31-4.32m	1⅞-1⅜pf prem	5-4½pf prem
Lisbon	127.00-127.75e	127.20-127.50e	65-190c disc	185-410c disc
Madrid	189.25-190.25p	189.55-189.75p	55-80c disc	180-215c disc
Milan	2355-2363lr	2356-2358lr	38-45lr disc	81-88lr disc
Oslo	10.90-10.96k	10.94-10.95k	60-120ore disc	370-440ore disc
Paris	11.20-11.30f	11.22½-11.24½f	29¾-33¾c disc	43½-51½c disc
Stockholm	10.57½-10.61½k	10.59½-10.60½k	105-45ore	195-135ore prem
Tokyo	436-442y	440-441y	2.75-2.40y prem	7.70-7.35y prem
Vienna	30.17-30.35sch	30.23-30.28sch	14-11gro prem	36-30gro prem
Zurich	3.41-3.44f	3.42½-3.43½f	2½-2c prem	6¾-6¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 91.4 up 0.2

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 13%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 13¾ Low 11

Week Fixed: 13

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12²⁵⁄₃₂	2 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆
3 months	12½	3 months	12⅜

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13⅛-13¹⁄₁₆	1 month	13⅝
2 months	12¹⁵⁄₁₆-12⅞	2 months	13⁵⁄₁₆
3 months	12¾-12½	3 months	13⅛
6 months	12²¹⁄₃₂-12⁹⁄₁₆	6 months	13

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14½-13⅞	7 months	13½-13¼
2 months	14-13⅞	8 months	13½-13¼
3 months	13⅞-13⅝	9 months	13½-13¼
4 months	13¾-13½	10 months	13½-13¼
5 months	13⅝-13⅜	11 months	13½-13¼
6 months	13½-13¼	12 months	13½-13¼

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	13¾-13⅝	6 months	13⁵⁄₁₆-13³⁄₁₆
3 months	13⁷⁄₁₆-13⅜	12 months	13⁵⁄₁₆-13³⁄₁₆

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	13¾-13½	3 months	13½
7 days	13¾-13⅝	6 months	13⅜
1 month	13⅝	1 year	13¼

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 13¾-13⅝ Close 13

1 week	13¾-13⅝	6 months	13⁷⁄₁₆-13⁵⁄₁₆
1 month	13¾-13⅝	9 months	13⁷⁄₁₆-13⁵⁄₁₆
3 months	13⁹⁄₁₆-13⁷⁄₁₆	12 months	13⁷⁄₁₆-13⁵⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 14 6 months 13⅞

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Other Markets

Australia	1.7040-1.7190
Bahrain	0.6895-0.6925
Finland	8.2660-8.3060
Greece	110.25-112.25
Hongkong	10.4985-10.5385
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5135-0.5165
Malaysia	4.1970-4.2270
Mexico	80.25-81.75
New Zealand	2.3175-2.3375
Saudi Arabia	6.1680-6.1980
Singapore	3.8250-3.8550
South Africa	1.8730-1.8830

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.4615-1.4630
† Canada	1.2235-1.2240
Netherlands	2.6400-2.6430
Belgium	45.07-45.12
Denmark	8.11-8.12
West Germany	2.3860-2.3870
Portugal	70.35-70.55
Spain	104.75-104.85
Italy	1306.50-1306.50
Norway	6.0450-6.0550
France	6.2350-6.2400
Sweden	5.8500-5.8600
Japan	243.05-243.25
Austria	16.69-16.71
Switzerland	1.8945-1.8955

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8170-0.8172

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14½-13½; seven days, 14⁵⁄₁₆-14³⁄₁₆; one month, 14⅝-14⅜; three months, 14⅝-14½; six months, 14¹¹⁄₁₆-14⁹⁄₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $333 (an ounce); pm, $331.75 close, $332.
Krugerrand (per coin): $341-344 (£188.75-190.25).
Sovereigns (new): $80-81 (£44.25-44.75).

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Amersham International 25p Ord (142)	198-2
Baillie Gifford Japan Trust 25p Ord (100)	73
Computer and Systems Eng 20p Ord (225)	236+8
Cussins Property Group 20p Ord (62)	91
Exchequer 13¾% 'A' 1987 (j)	£50
Fleet Holdings 20p Ord	34
Good Relations Group 10p Ord (61a)	76+1
Hardanger Properties 10p Ord (100a)	108-2
Lee Valley Water 9½% Red Pf 1989 (†b)	£12
Newmarket Co 1981) Ltd $0.05 (£3.06)	228+2
Oceonics 10p Ord (130a)	170+5
Osprey Assets 25p Ord	30
Owners Abroad 10p Ord (10a)	26¾+1½
Peek Holdings 7p Ord	13½
Speyhawk 10p Ord (115)	140
Television South West 5p Ord	16
Treasury 3% 1987	£67½-⅛
Treasury 2% Index Linked 1988 (†h)	£90
Treasury 2½% Index Linked 2011 (†)	£99

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
First Castle Electronic (30‡)	May 5	23 prem
St Georges Group (74‡)	May 6	37 prem-½

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b. £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £50 paid. i £35 paid. j £65 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.

BUSINESS NEWS

…st for Bestobell profits rise 10pc

By Gareth David

…tobell, the controls, …tion and energy engineer… group, raised pretax …ofits by 9.6 per cent to …5.47m in the year to December on a turnover 2.7 per cent up at £122.35m.

This was better than market expectations and boosted the shares 16p to 366p, but they are still well below their 1981/2 high of 490p.

Final dividend is raised from 10.14p gross to 10.8p making a total of 18.46p for the year, a rise of 6.1 per cent on the previous year.

It was the most difficult trading year for some time with the main feature being the restructuring Mr Sandy Marshall the group's chairman said.

"After allowing for the loss of revenue from the consumer products division, but including a full year's trading by Avica, the United Kingdom trading profit declined from £5.31m to £4.69m. On the other hand there was a substantial increase in trading profit from the overseas groups in Australia and Africa," Mr Marshall said.

Operating profits of the control and instrumentation division rose from £2.39m and in the aviation and seals division from £3.26m to £3.58m. The energy engineering division, however, plunged from profits of £665,000 to a £385,000 loss, although the order book was now slightly better.

At 366p the shares yield 4.9 per cent and stand on a fully taxed price earnings multiple of about 13.

Plant closure costs Rockware £10.7m

By Michael Prest

Rockware Group, the glass and plastic container manufacturers, more than doubled pretax profits last year to £899,000. The final dividend was maintained at 3p gross. No interim was paid.

But below the line Rockware has included an extraordinary cost of £10.7m for closing its St Helens plant which cost 800 jobs. The extraordinary item turned a pretax profit into a net loss of £10.1m.

Nevertheless, the pretax result shows an improvement on the first half, during which Rockware lost £1.35m. Interest charges fell from £5.3m in 1980 to £4.66m last year. Mr John Craigie, chairman and chief executive, said that interest charges were reduced by lower interest rates, and by tighter handling of cash. Borrowings at the end of the year were less than the £22.1m recorded in the last accounts.

But Mr Craigie also said that the mainstream glass container business was depressed despite extensive destocking which could lead to a recovery in demand if interest rates fall. Plastics were a little better, but the manufacturers of the raw material were under pressure to raise prices.



John Craigie: lighter cash

Rockware's turnover consequently declined by £8m to £16m, producing an operating profit of £6.44m compared with £8.62m. Mr Craigie hopes that a good summer will increase demand for drinks containers. Rockware should also gain to the tune of about £500,000 from the freeze on gas prices for major industrial users proposed in the last Budget.

The board said: "We believe that the further actions we have taken will bring us forward into better times for 1982 as a whole".

Second half recovery boosts DRG shares

By Drew Johnston

DRG, the paper, stationery and packaging group yesterday announced better than expected pretax profits of £15.5m for the year to December 1981. Profits were £18m last year, but the City had been expecting the figure to fall to around £14m. the share price rose 12p to 86p.

Turnover was down slightly at £567.4m against £568.2m but sales to customers rose from £520.3m to £534.9m. The pretax profit figures indicated a second half recoveryi after first half profits of £4.7m against *£10.8m in 1980.*

Mr John Camm, chairman, said overseas profits were maintained in the second half and the whole of the recovery came from the United Kingdom.

He said the United Kingdom workforce had been cut by 3,000 during the year without a reduction in productivity capacity.

Unprofitable activities such as lightweight corrugated board-making in Glasgow, plastic cup production in Liverpool and the Bristol calendar and diary business had all been phased out over the year.

Since the year end closures have also been announced at the Merton board mill in south London, and the rigid box factory at Mangotsfield, Bristol. These would bring the total mumbers employed by the group down to around 13,500, Mr Camm said.

Production rationalization also contributed to the sec*ond half recovery. Mr Camm* said DRG had reduced its stationery lines from 4,000 to 1.000, over the year.

In envelopes, the number of products had been cut from 400 to 200 without significantly altering customer choice, he said.

Uncertainty continued into 1982 and it would not be the consumer but holding down cost increases which would help profitability in the current year, he said.

Dividends have been held at last year's level of 4.28p gross per ordinary share. This makes a total pay-out of 8.57p gross, the same as last year. On today's share price, this gives a yield of 10 per cent.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crds.	13½%
C. Hoare & Co	*13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 10½%, £10,000 up to £50,000 11¼%, £50,000 and over 11½%.

ZIMBABWE

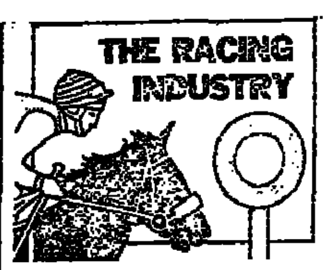
Zimbabwe's mineral marketing corporation, which will transfer the mining industry's marketing function from foreign-owned multinationals to state control, is expected to be fully operational within a month.

● China is seeking $900m (£500m) worth of foreign investment for 130 projects mostly to expand or modernize factories.

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981-82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
129	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	129	—	10.0	7.8	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	73	—	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5
205	187	Bardon Hill	200	+1	9.7	4.9	9.7	11.8
107	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	107	—	15.7	14.7	—	—
104	63	Deborah Services	63	—	6.0	9.5	3.1	5.9
131	97	Frank Horsell	127	—	6.4	5.0	11.4	23.5
83	33	Frederick Parker	78xd	—	6.4	8.2	4.0	7.6
78	46	George Blair	54	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Prec Castings	97	—	7.3	7.5	7.0	10.5
109	100	Isis Conv Pref	109	—	15.7	14.4	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	97	—	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9
130	108	James Burrough	116	—	8.7	7.5	8.5	10.6
334	248	Robert Jenkins	252	—	31.3	12.4	3.5	8.9
64	51	Scruttons "A"	64	—	5.3	8.3	9.8	9.1
222	159	Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5
15	10	Twinlock Ord	14	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinlock 15% ULS	79½	—	15.0	18.9	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6
103	73	Walter Alexander	79	—	6.4	8.1	5.2	9.2
263	212	W. S. Yeates	231	+1	14.5	6.3	6.0	12.1

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146



Part III: Gamblers pay out a fortune each year to the bookmakers who say that others should plough back money to benefit the industry

Odds in favour of sport itself

By Sally White and Marcel Berlins

Racing and betting feed off each other. Where racing is of high quality, and known to be conducted honestly, people will bet (to the tune of £2,600m a year), to the advantage of the bookmakers. In turn, racing depends on the bookies for much of its financing — for the prize money which is needed to attract high-class horses; capital improvements to the racecourses; the "integrity services" which ensure that British racing remains "straight"; the support of breeding; and scientific research.

Mutual interdependence does not necessarily make for harmony. The racing and betting fraternities have just completed their annual wrangle on how much money racing needs. The Home Secretary adjudicated with the help of one of the City accounting groups, Spicer and Pegler, announcing a decision which was thought to have brought peace with honour. An increase in the rate of the betting levy of approximately 12 per cent, which will bring in about £20m in the 1982-83 racing season, was the decision from Mr Whitelaw. That was £4.4m short of the figure asked for by the Horserace Betting Levy Board.

*Lord Plummer, the chair*man of the Levy Board, declared himself reasonably satisfied. Lord Wigg, president of the Betting Office Licences Association, has

Milking the punters?

suggested that the accountants may have underestimated the *impact* on the bookmakers of rising costs. They employ about 80,000 of the 100,000 people in the racing business at 12,000 outlets. He added that the high rate of tax would lead to the growth of illegal betting, Wherebookmakerscouldoffer better odds because they would not be subject to the same overheads, expenses or controls.

The Horserace Betting Levy Board was set up by statute in 1961 and given the task of assessing annually a toll to improve racing and breeding, collecting the money from the bookmakers and distributing it to the various claimants. On the bookmakers' part it is a contribution, a levy amounting on average to about 0.88 per cent of net turnover. Relations between the racing and betting sides of the industry are usually amiable. The Levy Board has been paid in advance instalments by the big four bookmakers and many of the smaller groups for several years, and in return paid interest. This year the system has been changed following the Horserace Betting Levy Act of 1981, and all bookmakers will pay the levy in 12 monthly instalments.

Although an increase in the levy is disputed as a matter of course by the bookmakers, this year's assessment — based as usual *on the preceding year's* turnover but with a significant addition — was challenged most vigorously by the bookmakers because the original request was for a 50 per cent rise. Bad weather earlier this winter reduced revenue and cut deep into bookmakers' profits. This happened only months after the unexpected decision of Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to raise the tax on off-course betting from 7½ to 8 per cent.

Until the increase bookies deducted as tax 9p in the pound from the return on a winning bet. Since the increase, betting shops are deducting 10 per cent, and the cry has gone up that the bookies are milking the punter — to pay ½ per cent extra to the revenue they are taking a full 1 per cent.

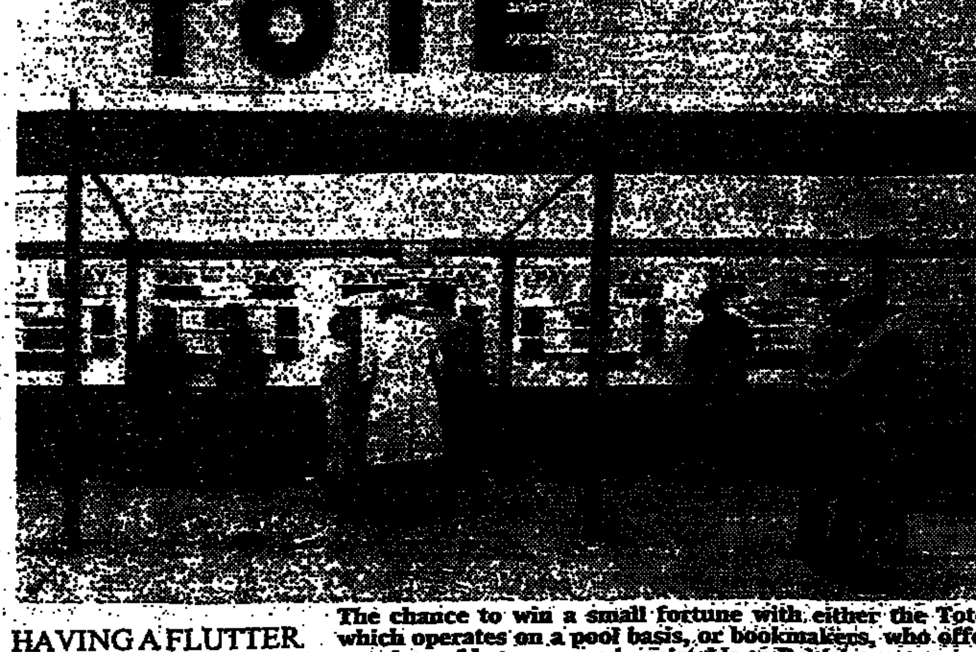
The bookmakers deny this; they argue that the situation is more complex and much less to their advantage than appears on the surface. Rising overheads and falling profit margins, they say, make 10 per cent necessary merely for them to survive.

Popular belief has it that there is no such thing as a poor bookmaker. The reality is different. The Rothschild Royal Commission on Gambling reported in 1978 after a detailed examination of bookies' finances: "(i) small betting offices are not on average particularly profitable, (ii) small betting offices are not very profitable and their lack of profitability accounts for the continuing fall in the total number of betting offices since 1968, *(iii)* the *Big Four do not* make a very high rate of return on the money they have invested in bookmaking." The finances of bookies, both large and small, have worsened since the *Rothschild report.*

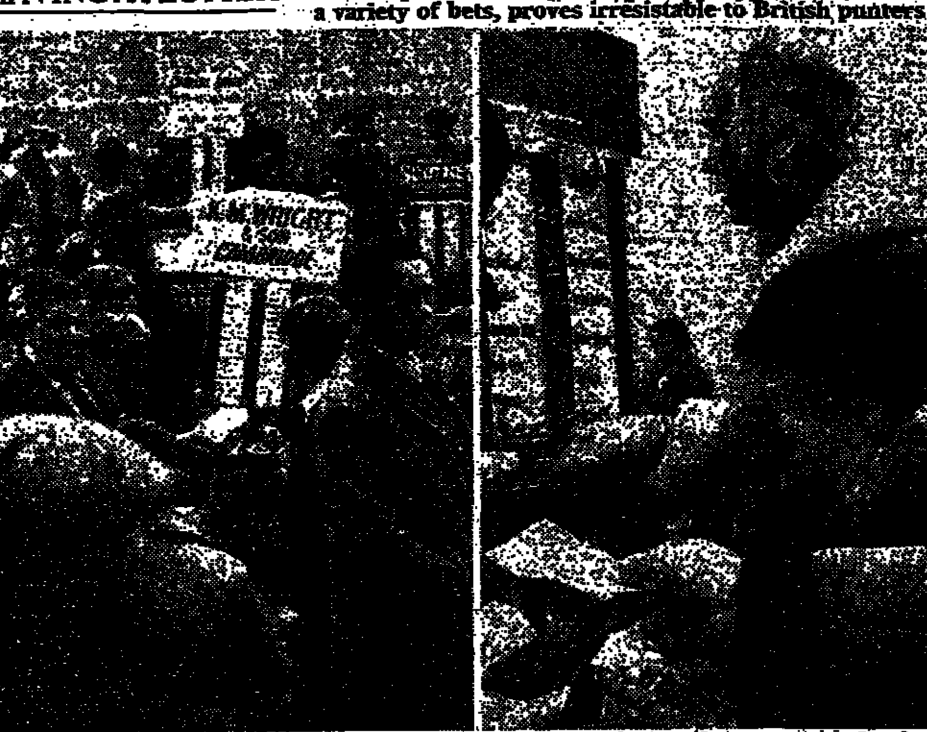
The history of the big four has been a chequered one in recent years. Only Ladbrokes have retained their independence. William Hill are owned by the late Sir Charles Clore's empire, Sears Holdings. Bass (600 outlets), the brewery group, bought the Coral Racing group when Coral Leisure was broken up after the loss of its casino gaming licences in 1980. Grand Metropolitan — the hotel, brewery, wines and spirits and Express Dairy group — owns Mecca (620 outlets).

Last year Ladbrokes made £14.8m from betting and racecourse management. City forecasts are for £13.5m in the present year, and £14m for the next year. Ladbrokes have about 1,130 retail betting shops and account for about 15½ per cent of off-course betting.

William Hill made £8.7m, an increase from the previous year's £6.7m, according to the annual report for 1980-81: the latest figures available from the parent company, Sears Holdings. In that year the group carried out some rationalization of their 800 outlets, and moved the head office from London to Leeds to cut costs.



HAVING A FLUTTER The chance to win a small fortune with either the Tote, which operates on a pool basis, or bookmakers, who offer a variety of bets, proves irresistible to British punters



Peter Greenland

The bookmakers may present a united front to outsiders such as the Levy Board; but there are differences within their own ranks, in particular between the small bookies and the giants. The Betting Office Licences Association (BOLA) represents the big four bookmaking chains, and there are also several smaller members. But most small bookmakers belong to the National Association of Bookmakers (NAB).

Of the 12,000 betting office licences in force at the end of May 1981, approximately two-thirds were for shops which belong to the NAB, the remainder to BOLA. In terms of money contributed to the Levy, however, the proportions are reversed. Because contributions are based on turnover, BOLA members pay about 60 to 70 per cent.

The traditional bookie blames the multiples for much of the decrease in the numbers of betting shops — in 1968 there were more than 15,000; but the decline has been steady ever since. The big four, benefiting from economies of scale, were able to push out the little man in many areas. This has happened in the High Street to all forms of business.

What kind of deal does the punter get? Betting in Britain is more interesting and offers a far greater variety and choice of bets than any other country in the world.

There is, first, the possibility of betting either on the Tote — where all stakes go into a pool, which is then shared (after administrative expenses have been deducted) by those who have bet on the winner — or at "starting price", the odds offered by most bookmakers at the time the race begins.

Scars will remain

Second, there is ante-post betting, where the bookmakers offer odds days, weeks or even months beforehand.

Third, it is possible in Britain to place a large *variety of combination bets* and "accumulators", involving, if the punter wishes, several horses in different races, at different racecourses, even on different days.

The main question on the relationship between betting and racing remains how long the existing levy style system can continue. Scars will remain when the present dispute has been resolved. Bookmakers are already asking why only they (and the Tote) contribute to the Levy. Why should not a part of the profits made by breeders selling their yearlings for vast amounts go to support racing? Or some of the prize money won by owners?

It is time, the bookmakers say, for some of the others to plough a small part of their profits back for the benefit of the industry.

HORSERACE BETTING TURNOVER (Financial Years)

£ thousands

	1975/6	1976/7	1977/8	1978/9	1979/80	1980/1
On Course Bookmakers	53860	86050	108537	119595	168659	184175
*Totalisator	21400	19575	20000	20900	23900	23950
Totals	105260	105625	128537	140495	192559	208125
Off Course Bookmakers	1396426	1499184	1683498	1765376	2200170	2411670
Totalisator	13240	12963	14253	See Above	See Above	See Above
Totals	1409666	1462157	1697751	1765376	2200170	2411670
Joint Totals	1514926	1567782	1826288	1905871	2392729	2619795

*From 1978 Tote figures refer to pool betting only

Peter Greenland

Stephen Little: Praying for a "skinner" at each race

Vicar's son whose pulpit is a pitch for the punters

By John Karter, Racing Editor

For Stephen Little, the son of a Lincolnshire vicar, the "good book" means a "skinner", an expression for which you may search the scriptures in vain.

Given a computer-like facility for *juggling* figures and a passion for racing kindled while a boy (Little's great-great grandfather was a judge at Calcutta racecourse and his uncle, Wilfred Crawford, still trains in Scotland), it was always a shade of odds on that he would forsake the cloth for the turf. Having made a book at school and taken his classmates to the cleaners, he decided to make bookmaking his profession.

Where he might have preached from the pulpit, *Stephen Little now shouts* the odds from his pitches on racecourses around the country. The "skinner" that he prays for each time he makes a book on a race is when a horse that no one has backed wins and there is no payout whatsoever. Contrary to popular belief, it is an uncommon event.

The commonly-held view of the cigar-smoking bookmaker in a fast car, living in a mansion and holidaying in the Bahamas, is certainly not borne out by most on-course bookmakers. Little, for example, who is regarded as the West Country's leading course bookmaker, does drive a Mercedes, but his "mansion" is a modest mortgaged semi-detached in Bath and his "exotic" vacations are usually a "busman's holiday" taken in Ireland.

His turnover is £1m-£2m a year, but his gross profit averages between 1 and 2 per cent. So, allowing for overheads — pitch fees, travel expenses and staff (he employs a clerk and a "floor *man*" to lay off money for him and keep him informed of market fluctuations) which add up to about £100 a day — the Little type of bookmaker is clearly not a large fish in the capitalist pool.

A bookmaker's calculation of odds is based on a notional payout (including stake) of £100 on each horse in a race. Different points are allowed for the various odds according to how much the punter

Points for a profit

has to put on to get £100 back. For example, at odds of 10-1 he has to put on £9, which is counted as nine points. These points are adjusted to give a total that should in theory produce a profit — usually around 20 per cent.

But it is not quite as simple as that. These calculations assume that the horses will all be backed in those exact proportions, which is never the case. Some horses will be heavily backed and others will be lightly supported or ignored altogether.

Another problem is that in the ultra-competitive world of on-course bookmaking only those with the best pitches attract the best business. Just imagine 100 or so dealers in a market place all selling the same article. The most sought-after pitches are in front of the grandstand where they line up in rows five or six deep and where they are allowed to display their odds on a board. There are also pitches along the rails that separate Tattersalls from the Members' enclosure, but the bookmakers who trade there are not allowed to use boards.

If you are not in a prime position then clearly you have to do something else to attract business. This usually means offering better odds, with the risk of being caught out by shrewd punters shopping around for value. It is generally acknowledged that those who bet on the course are more astute than their betting shop counterparts, who tend to favour multiple bets without much chance of success. That is why the big concerns such as Hills and Ladbrokes view their on-course operation purely as a shop window and not a profit-maker.

Last, but certainly not least, there is the problem peculiar to the world of gambling that its debts are not recoverable at law; bookmakers cannot sue clients who refuse to pay up. But as they pay betting tax on turnover, *they* can be made to pay duty on money they have never received.

TOMORROW: BLOODSTOCK

POINT TO POINT

Saunders in rehearsal for Grand National

By Ian Reid

The third of the traditional members' races over natural country, staged by the Cottesmore at Garthorpe last Saturday, was won by a head by Joey Newton on Southern Favour from the favourite, Miss Chief. These two thoroughbreds were so far in front of the rest of the field of ordinary hunters that they made something of a mockery of the race.

Riding an animal called Tom was Dick Saunders, wearing the colours of the point-to-point secretary, Frank Gilman. He was not in fact a competitor since he is not a member of the Cottesmore Hunt, but he had been allowed to join in the race for the benefit of a BBC television crew who wanted to film him in Grittar's colours prior to his ride on the Grand National favourite.

Peter Greenall *won* the orthodox members' race on Bingsale, but his Song of Life, odds-on favourite for the Men's Open, does not appear to stay three miles on soft going and was easily beaten by Yorkshire Mariner.

Mackelly and his rider, Didi Powles, who looked unbeatable, gave another scintillating display to land the Albright and Wilson Ladies' Open by a distance from the veteran, Even Harmony. Andrew Berry's Scobeck, whose winning time in the Maiden was four seconds faster than Yorkshire Mariner's, looks a live contender for the Massey Ferguson final.

It was Ladies Day at Kimble, where Sara Lawrence, law student daughter of Lord Oaksey, was the first woman to ride in the Pegasus Cup (bar) Members' race. She won it with consummate ease on Edward Cazalet's Quilteven. Jenny Pidgeon repeated her Oakley double on French Peacock and Never Flap, taking her leading score to seven in the women's table.

In the Golden Valley's first open Dishcloth made all the running, holding Miss Friday's challenge by four lengths in the fastest time of the day. In the Second Division, Little Bilsham, trained by Bill Bryan and ridden by his younger son Willie, reversed the Brecon form by beating Dempsey, whose tail was swishing ominously.

Eight horses jumped the last fence [illegible]

[illegible]

RO: Another Simon; Mdn: False Bay; Mdn II: On The Guinea.

Tickham: Hunt: Free Indication; RO: No Justice; LO: Jackway; O: Castamayor. Adj I: Marks Methane; Adj II: *Brief Chance*, Mdn I: Bonny Boniface; Mdn: Tinks Lore.

SATURDAY'S FIXTURES: Crawley and Horsham, at Parham (1.45); Curre, at Howick (1.30); Eglinton, at Bogside (1.45); Fitzwilliam, at Cottenham (2.0); Harkaway Club, at Chaddesley Corbett (1.30); Holcombe Harriers, at Whittington (2.0); Hurworth, at Hutton Rudby (2.0); Lamerton, at Kilworthy (2.0); North Norfolk Harriers, at Higham (2.0); Pembrokeshire, at Scoveston Fort (2.0); South Herefordshire, at Belmont (1.30); V W H, at Siddington (1.30); Weston and Banwell Harriers, at Hedge (1.0); Wilton, at Badbury Rings (1.30).

Niarchos seeks top young American jockey

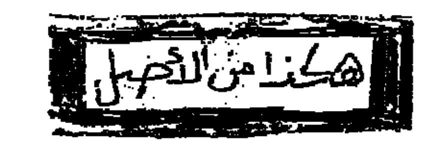
Paris, March 24. — Stavros Niarchos, the Greek shipping magnate wants Cash Asmussen, one of the most promising young jockeys in the United States, to ride for him in Europe this season, racing sources said today. His racing manager, Sir Philip Payne-Gallwey, had flown to the United States this week. It was likely that a contract would be signed.

Asmussen, aged 20, who lives in Laredo, Texas, has had spectacular success since he started riding four years ago. He was voted America's top apprentice in 1979.

The financial arrangements had already been negotiated, the sources said. Niarchos was keen to get Asmussen for the start of the season at Longchamp at the end of next week.

Francois Boutin, Niarchos's trainer, is known to rate Asmussen highly. Asmussen once explained that his Christian name: "My dad said that even if I were broke, I'd always have Cash." He comes from a racing family and is rated by many as the most exciting prospect since Steve Cauthen came from the United States to ride in Britain. — Reuter.

□ Peter Haynes is to give up riding [illegible] before he takes over from Derek Kent as trainer [illegible] Findon, West Sussex. Peter, aged 32, has been riding since he was three and after 160 winners and many show [illegible], has not broken a bone.



SPORT

RACING: FIRST DAY OF FLAT SEASON AND PLAN TO SAVE GRAND NATIONAL

Indian King's red-letter-day to end Princes Gate purple patch

By Michael Seely

The familiar surge of expectation will be with us once again as the runners come under orders for the Brocklesby Stakes, the first race of the 1982 flat racing season at Doncaster this afternoon. By the end of the day we will know whose horses are forward in condition, what the ground is like and what side of the course is likely to be favoured by the draw on the straight course.

No one knows for certain how well their horses are until this moment. As Barry Hills said earlier this week: "Last year I came here on the opening day not fancying my chances one little bit. But by the end of the afternoon, I had saddled three winners". Yesterday there was further support for Hills's William Hill Lincoln Handicap candidate, Herbie Quayle, who is now top priced at 11-1 with all leading firms of bookmakers.

One trainer who generally makes a good start to the season is Guy Harwood. This afternoon the Sussex trainer has two strongly fancied candidates in Indian King and Bold Hawk. Indian King runs in the day's feature race, the Doncaster Mile. As a three-year-old Indian King gained his most important success on this course when slamming Ackermann by five lengths in the Battle of Britain Handicap at the St Leger meeting.

That was an impressive performance as the runner-up was considered unbeatable by his connections. But subsequently Indian King disappointed twice, primarily when only fifth behind his stable companion, the current Lincoln favourite Home Coming, in a valuable handicap at Ascot later that month.

However, that defeat was in soft going and now that the ground is during up Indian King should be in his element. Prince's Gate is sure to be Indian King's chief market rival, having struck a purple patch last autumn when his three victories in succession included wins in a handicap at Ascot and the Prix Perth at Saint-Cloud. All those victories were gained in the mud and conditions must be more in favour of Indian King.

Silver Season and Milk of the Barley also have to be considered. Silver Season enjoyed a highly successful season in 1981 winning five races — although he was disqualified in one of them — including a victory in the valuable Cecil Frail Handicap at Haydock Park in May. Silver Season is trained by Clive Brittain and the Newmarket trainer is reasonably satisfied with the horse's condition.

"Silver Season is more at home in the mud but he is not inconvenienced by good going," Brittain said. "He runs reasonably well. I would expect to see Winart become favourite for the Lincoln as Gavin Pritchard-Gordon's colt beat my fellow by three lengths and a gallop last Saturday."

Willie Carson, who is making his return to the saddle after severe injuries sustained in a fall on Silken Session. He is also riding three other horses for Brittain including Pontos, who runs against Bold Hawk in the French Gate Maiden Stakes. Pontos ran pretty well on several occasions last season, but Bold Hawk, who showed exceptional promise when finishing a close fourth to Perang Tejam in a maiden race on this track in November, is preferred.

Carson is even-money favourite to win his fifth jockey's championship and this determined Scotsman can get off the mark for the season on Judd in the Bertie Bassett Handicap Stakes. Judd found his form with a vengeance last autumn and may be too good at the weights for such as Mirror Boy and Peppery.

The Batthany Handicap for three-year-olds is always a fiercely contested sprint and this year's running of the race promises to be no exception. Feather Sound should be the fittest horse in the field. Robert Armstrong's Be My Guest colt has already won once and been placed fourth in the south of France. There is also a strong whisper for Reg Hollinshead's Dragunn, who form experts consider to be leniently handicapped.

The Brocklesby Stakes is traditionally the first trial of two-year-old strength. And however Hide and Tommy Fairhurst fare with Roman Quest, the pair should be capable of winning the five furlong race with Pangulo.

Rubstic enjoys day out

Rubstic, the 1979 Aintree Grand National winner, showed that he is no back number despite his 13 years when he ran into second place behind Colonel Henry at Kelso yesterday.

In brilliant sunshine racegoers were shouting home "Rubby" on the long run-in; but he failed by six lengths to peg back Colonel Henry, who led all the way in the Croall Bryson Hunters Chase, a qualifier of the Land Rover Championship.

John leadbetter, Rubstic's trainer said: "I am delighted with him. He is an old man but he was enjoying himself today. All being well I will run him in the Wilson's Motors Land Rover Hunters Chase at Sedgefield on April 6".

Colonel Henry, owned, bred and trained by Mrs Mary Anne Braithwaite at Cupar, returns to Kelso on April 5 for the first running over the course of the Horse anf Hound Buttler Hunters Chase. Leadbetter started off the meeting by taking division one of the Heiton Novices Hurdle when Conform beat Armenos by a length.

John O'Neill pushed Conform into the lead at the fifth and the filly never looked like being caught. Mrs Betty Ward, the winning owner, of Grantham, bought Conform for 12,000 guineas at the Newmarket sales last back-end. "The filly has been bought to run in a conditions hurdles race at Cheltenham", Leadbetter said.

O'Neill completed a double in division three of the novice hurdle when Flying Shuttle just beat Better Red by half a length.

Mr Davies agrees to sell Aintree for £7m

By Michael Seely

After a lengthy session of debate agreement was finally reached at 9.30 yesterday morning between the Jockey Club and Bill Davies on the sale of Aintree. The chairman of the Walton Property Group is prepared to sell the course, the home of the Grand National for £7m, which is £1m less than Mr Davies's original asking price.

Lord Plummer, the chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board has always made it plain that such a sum could not be raised from official sources. Therefore, a worldwide appeal for outside funds to save the world's greatest steeplechase is being launched. Full details of the scheme will be announced later this week.

The future of the National has been hanging in the balance for the past 23 years and it has become obvious that only a dramatic development such as this could prevent next month's running of the race from being the last Grand National. The money will have to be found by November 1.

The plan is that the money should be passed over to Racecourse Holdings Trust, which is a subsidiary of the Jockey Club. For its part RHT would guarantee essential care and maintenance and run the race for the foreseeable future.

Captain John MacDonald-Buchanan, the senior steward of the Jockey Club, has been much heartened by the public response received and is sure that the money can be raised. These sentiments are echoed by John Henderson, the chairman of RHT.

Lord Derby has agreed to head the Aintree Trust and the well known racing author, Dick Francis, will be another trustee. Mr Francis said yesterday: 'I am sure the people in this country do not fully understand the worldwide appeal of the National and I can see dollars, yen, Deutsch-marks and lire pouring into the fund."



Lord Derby: has agreed to head Aintree Trust.

Sir Trevor Jones, the leader of Liverpool City Council, also welcomed this latest move. "I can see every prospect of the project being successfull. Most people consider Mr Davies to have been the villain of the piece but this has never been my view particularly when you consider the loss he must have sustained on his original investment, taking inflation and interest charges into account."

Mr Davies said: "I've always considered RHT to be the ideal body to manage the National and I hope to see the race saved for the forseeable future."

Looking on the gloomy side, if the appeal fails, the balance of the monies raised will be handed back to the donors or suitable charities such as the Injured Jockeys Fund. Sir Trevor Jones also stressed that there was no possibility of Mr Davies being given planning permission on the site and that if all else failed compulsory purchase might have to be considered.

There is no doubt that not only has the National become part of our national heritage, it also possesses immense appeal all over the world. It is more than a horse race, it is an institution which annually thrills millions of television viewers. It is drama which possesses enormous popular appeal



Doncaster

Tote Double: 3.5 and 4.5. Treble: 2.35, 3.35 and 4.35.
[Television (ITV): 2.35, 3.5 and 3.35]

2.0 BROCKLESBY STAKES (2-y-o c & g: £1,707: 5f) (12 runners)

[illegible]

2.35 BERTIE BASSETT HANDICAP

[illegible]

3.5 BATTHYANY HANDICAP (3-y-o)

[illegible]

3.35 DONCASTER MILE (£7,271: 1m)

[illegible]

4.05 FRENCH GATE STAKES (3-y-o maidens)

[illegible]

4.35 BRONTE HANDICAP (Fillies)

[illegible]

6 2100-00 HIGH AUTHORITY (C) (Bill Maynard) D Leslie 8-6 ... P Tulk 4
7 410041- KNIGHT SECURITY (D) (Knight Security 'Northern') J Berry 8-3 ... N Carlisle 5 5
8 000304- BROADWAY LODGE (Kelly) C Wildman 8-3 ... D Dineley 10
9 003300- CHANNING GIRL (M Hassan) C Brittain 7-13 ... W Carson 8
10 004020- GINITA (E Badger) E Eldin 7-10 ... A Mackay 5 11
11 200- LERINA (J Haverhals) B Hanbury 7-9 ... B Crossley 3 2
13 004020- CENTRAL CARPETS (R Stubbs) R Stubbs 7-7 ... — 3
14 020220- PARABEMS (J da Cruz) C Williams 7-7 ... C Cox 7 14
15 030000- PAT PONG (C Barber-Lomax) T Fairhurst 7-7 ... C Coates 7 6
17 000000- EL PATO (C) (Lynregal Ltd) W Wharton 7-7 ... P Hill 7 1

3 Sonseri, 4 Preparation, 9-2 Knight Security, 6 Channing Girl, 8 Teo-Traco, 10 Wicked Wave, 12 Ginita, 14 others.

Doncaster selections

By Michael Seely
2.0 Pangulo, 2.35 Judd, 3.5 Feather Sound, 3.35 Indian King, 4.5 BOLD HAWK is specially recommended, 4.35 Knight Security.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.0 Brondesbury, 2.35 Lakenheath, 3.5 Feather Sound, 3.35 Princes Gate, 4.5 Pontos, 4.35 Channing Girl.

Towcester

[illegible]

5 414 BROOKS LAW 7-11-1 ... S G Knight
6 1000 BLUE PATROL 6-11-1 ... —
7 200 BLACK EARL 5-10-10 ... M Williams
8 400 SALAD 8-10-8 ... C Jones
9 -004 LIQUIDATE 6-10-8 ... C Brown
10 3-0p THE ESCAPER 6-10-7 ... Nicholls 7
11 233 JOSMILL 5-10-5 ... Bastard
12 000 RUN DEEP 6-10-5 ... Barton
14 033- TIEBREAKER 6-10-2 ... Mr Mitchell
15 40/0 MR JERRY 7-10-2 ... Leach
16 u/00 HOPEFUL COURAGE 7-10-1 ... C Gray 4
17 0/0- SKY RIDER 6-10-1 ... Reilly
20 000 SOCK DENNIS 6-10-0 ... Christine Young 7
23 l024 WEE WILLIAM 5-10-0 ... G Jones
24 p TAW VALLEY 9-10-0 ... —
25 1p INDADO 4-10-0 ... Yeoman 7
26 03p MOYA MOWA 5-10-0 ... Mr Frost 7
27 400/ TAMERCO 6-10-0 ... Coyle
28 11-p COLLEAGUE 7-10-0 ... J Walthen
29 20-p NO CAMPING 10-10-0 ... —

5 Josmel, 6 Skaheena, 7 Blue patrol and Run Deep.

Taunton

[illegible]

3.45 STATE EXPRESS YOUNG CHASERS QUALIFIER (£1,688: 2m 50yds) (11)

2 2110 SEA IMAGE 7-12-3 ... Francome

[illegible]

Worcester results

[illegible]

Kelso

[illegible]

Southwell

[illegible]

CRICKET

English rebels just fail to stop clean sweep by S Africa

From Eric Marsden, Johannesburg, Mar 24



The run-out off the last ball of a match which alternated between farce and melodrama robbed the rebel English tourists of what would have been their first tour win by .034 of a run here today. South Africa thus made a clean sweep of the three one-day matches and the tourists have only the final four-day match, which starts at Durban on Friday, to redeem themselves.

They finally threw away a game which was ruined by rain and decidedd arbitrarily by the calculator, when they failed to score four runs off the last over to reach 112 needed from 23 overs to beat South Africa's 243 from 50 overs at a rate of 4.86.

This was all the more astonishing because the task had seemed hopeless when 20 were needed with two overs to go and the sky darkening, but Amiss hit Le Roux for a four and two sixes off successive balls.

Humpage faced van der Bijl with only four needed to win, but after missing the first two balls hit the next on to his stumps via a pad. A wide and a shaky single by Knott left two runs to get from two balls and Amiss to face, but he skied the first and wicket keeper Jennings took a difficult catch running backwards towards third man.

Sidebottom, last man in and facing the last ball, had been exhorted by his team mates to hit and run at all costs. He did his best to comply by edging the ball to third man but Barry Richards's return to the wicket-keeper found poor Sidebottom three yards short of completing his second run.

The total set by slide rule methods seemed a mite unfair as the South Africans had scored only 92 off their first 23 overs. But Gooch was in aggressive form and he and Boycott scored 61 from 15 overs in poor light and intermittent rain until a mix-up caught them both at the same end and disposed of Gooch for 38

Larkins helped Boycott to take the score to 86 until Le Roux dismissed both in one over. Two runs later van der Bijl bowled Willis and set the scene for the extraordinary finish.

In the morning, which was mostly dry and sunny, The Souh Africans reached their formidable 243 for five as a result of a late onslought by Clive Rice and Adrian Kuiper, the new cap from Western Province.

SOUTH AFRICA

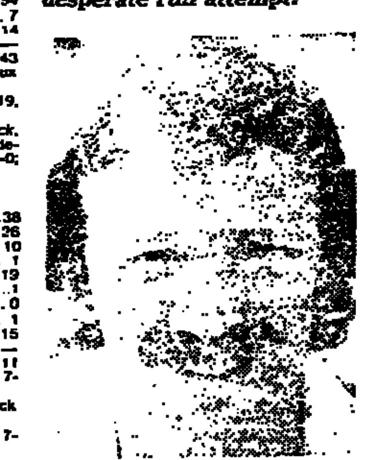
S R Cook, run out	62
*B A Richards, c Boycott, b Sidebottom	13
P N Kirsten, c Taylor, b Sidebottom	32
R G Pollock, c Knott, b Sidebottom	3
C B E Rice, not out	68
A P Kuiper, c Gooch, b Taylor	54
† R V Jennings, not out	7
Extras (lb 12, w 1, nb 1)	14
Total (5 wkts — innings closed)	243

A J Kourie, V A P van der Bijl, G S le Roux and K Watson did not bat.
Fall of wickets: 1–43, 2–118, 3–119, 4–126, 5–209.
Bowling: Taylor, 10–4–35–1; Hendrick, 10–0–54–0; Underwood, 10–0–53–1; Sidebottom, 10–1–35–3; Gooch, 2–0–17–0; Willey, 8–1–35–0.

SAB ENGLISH XI

*G A Gooch, run out	38
G Boycott, c Rice, b Le Roux	26
W Larkins, b Le Roux	10
P Willey, b van der Bijl	1
D L Amiss, c Jennings, b van der Bijl	19
G W Humpage, b van der Bijl	1
† A P E Knott, not out	0
A Sidebottom, run out	1
Extras (l-b 10, w 3, n b 2)	15
Total (7 wkts, 23 overs)	111

Fall: 1-60 2-85 3-86 4-88 5-108 6-110 7-111
D L Underwood, L B Taylor and M Hendrick did not bat.
BOWLING: van der Bijl, 9-0-30-3; Watson, 7-0-26-0; Le Roux, 5-0-32-2, Kuiper, 2-0-8-0.



Clive Rice (above): late flurry. Arnold Sidebottom: desperate run attempt.

GOLF

Great craftsman's 30-year itch

By John Hennessy

The old war horse, Neil Coles, impressively won through to the last six of the Sunningdale foursomes yesterday at the side of Doug McClelland, who shared the first prize with him two years ago.

The way they played yesterday, especially in the afternoon, suggested that this may be another winning week, yet Coles has been competing so long that he is not sure himself when he made his maiden voyage. He stabbed his finger at the list of winners and steadily receded to 1952. "I remember playing when Scrutton won", he said, but he could not guarantee that he had not tried his hand earlier. It is unlikely even for him, because he is now 47.

But Coles remains the great craftsman and mercifully practises what he preaches in the matter of slow play. His fourth round match against Keith Axwell and Phil Taylor lasted only two hours or so, but it does help things along if you can avoid playing the last three holes. Coles and McClelland won by 4 and 3. They were four under par to that point, needing three fours for a 66. Taylor and Maxwell played well but they could not live with two hardened professionals in this mood.

It was a gloriously sunny day, stolen from high summer, you might say, provided you chose that day in July when our climate tends to behave. There was an element of thrust and counter thrust going out and the winners, having taken three holes with birdies, were only one up at the turn. Coles was the strong man at first, finding the first green with a two wood, striking a five iron to eight feet off the fourth tee and a three iron to 18 inches off the seventh fairway. Meanwhile they had lost the third to a birdie and the fifth, uncharacteristically, to a par four.

McClelland emulated his partner's example with a three iron stone dead at the 10th and their opponents, making a hash of the eleventh, could never achieve the birdies that were a minimum requirement against opponents in this form.

An Irish women's pair, Mary McKenna and Maureen Madill, moved serenely on, and have yet to play the 15th hole. They won both their matches yesterday by 5 and 4. Receiving, respectively, nine and 10 strokes, they were much too powerful in their present form for male opponents.

A stroke on the card gave them their first hole, and a stroke into the heather by Lionel Platts the second. They needed no further encouragement.

The Welsh sisters, Vicki Thomas and Mandy Rawlings, followed suit, beating Alan Gillard and Jerry Robson 4 and 3. The women, according to the elder sister, Mrs Thomas, "played like dream", except for the three holes from the ninth, all of which were lost. From one up, they won the next three holes and a half at the 15th carried them through.

Yesterday's Sunningdale results

THIRD ROUND: P Taylor and K Maxwell 2 and 1 Miss J Soulsby and Miss C Waite; D McClelland and N Coles 2 and 1 R Whitehead and D Simpson; I Grant and a Reynolds 2 and 1 A Carter and N Newman; A Broadway and G Derkson 4 and 3 M Blainey and M Wall; T Morgan and R Percival 4 and 2 C Strathearn and Miss W Aiken; R Whyatt and M McLean 1 hole O Browne and H Spencer; P Green and C Mitchell 3 and 2 A Clark and N Lawrence; G Harris and G Hawkins 4 and 2 S Blight and R Wilkins.

C Cox and J Bennett 6 and 5 C Gough and D Turner; Miss M McKenna and Miss M Madill 5 and 4 S Thiel and A Drake; M Stokes and S Jackson 1 hole R Wyer and I Reed; L Platts and C Platts 1 hole J Baldwin and M McLean; T Pinner and D Harrison 2 and 1 P Barber and S Bennett; F Hill and M Few 2 and 1 A Stickley and R Willison; J Huggan and P Gallagher 4 and 2 C Dell and M Lovegrove; A Rattue and T Clements 4 and 2 G Dunsire and R Lee.

R Latham and G Pook 2 and 1 P Townsend and I Stungo; P Morley and R Burgess 2 and 1 S Geddes and S Roberts; J Nelson and C Jepson 5 and 4 P Longmore and L Noakes; D Ray and D Scanlan 3 and 1 M Sharman and M Sharman; H Muscroft and D Muscroft 2 and 1 M Smedley and G Brown; B Price and A Campbell 5 and 4 T Parker and M Wiggins; J Davies and Mrs C Caldwell 19th D Wood and P Mayo; R Wynn and K Robson 4 and 2 G Reynolds and B Connor.

G Torbett and R Smith 1 hole C Clark and K Williams; Miss C Langford and Miss M Walker 3 and 1 I Grant and F Kiddie; C Defoy and D Small 3 and 2 A Parr and J Nudds; Miss M Rawlings and Mrs V Thomas 19th K MacDonald and Mrs L Bayman; J Robson and A Gillard 2 and 1 B Lane and R Fish; N Dorey and A Hope 4 and 3 S Watkins and R Weedon; R Newberry and R Joyce 5 and 3 I Young and T Underwood; R Park and T Lane 19th D Rogan and S Barr.

McLelland and Coles 4 and 3 Taylor and Maxwell; Broadway and Derkson 5 and 4 Grant and Reynolds; Morgan and Percival 4 and 3 Whyatt and McLean; Green and Mitchell 5 and 3 Harris and Hawkings; Cox and Bennett 2 and 1 Stokes and Jackson; Miss McKenna and Miss Madill 5 and 4 Platts and Platts; Morley and Burgess 1 hole Latham and Pook; Ray and Scanlan 5 and 4 Nelson and Jepson; Davies and Mrs Caldwell 8 and 7 Price and Campbell; Muscroft and Muscroft 2 and 1 Winn and Robson; Pinner and Harrison 3 and 2 Hill and Few; Miss Rawlings and Mrs Thomas 4 and 3 Robson and Gillard; Dorey and Hope 1 hole Torbett and Smith; Miss Langford and Miss Walker 2 holes Nesbery and Joyce; Defoy and Small 5 and 4 Park and Lane; Rattue and Clements 4 and 2 Huggan and Gallagher.

Texan may find form on tartan isle

From John Ballantine, Hilton Head Island, March 25

It was at the Sea Pines Heritage Classic here last year that Bill Rogers, the tall, personable 30-year old Texan, began a string of victories that took him through the British Open, the world series of golf and the Texas Open. He also won the Suntory Open in Japan and the New South Wales and Australian Opens.

Rogers has had nothing like the some success so far this season but why should he not start again on the magnificent links of Harbour Town? Tom Watson, the 1979 champion or Hubert Green the winner in 1976 *and 1978 or Jerry Pate*, the winner of the Tournament Players' Title on Sunday, as well as Tom Kite, Gary Player, Hale Irwin and Scot Simpson might have something to say about it.

There is a strong British tradition here, since a British sea captain, William Hilton discovered the islnd in 1663 calling it in his log: "The goodliest, best and frutefullest isle ever was seen." Some of the Scottish clothes worn here, known as a "modified Royal Stuart" would make David Steel, the Liberal leader, blush.

But all is worn and all ceremonies are performed with the finest of Yankee intentions. Yesterday, a pipe band paraded rond the yachting basin before going out to the poin beyond the 189th gren where the new captain *drove imself into office to the* accompaniment of an ear-splitting blast on a revolutionary war cannon.

The South Carolina club, just up the coast near Charleston was America's very first golf club, found in 1776 by the Rev Henry Purcell at a place called Charleston's Green and a real attempt is made here to preserve that tradition.

Nick Faldo, who now lies 37th on the money list with £15,395, and Peter Oosterhuis, whose game is improving, are joined here by Greg... Norman

● *Brian Barnes, the defending* champion, and David Jagger, the leading money winner on the African Circuit, are favourites for the £73,000 Zambian open golf championship beginning at the Lusaka golf club.

They have been prominent on the African circuit this year, with Jagger winning the Nigerian open and finishing second to Eammon Darcy, of Ireland in the Kenyan Open. — Reuter.

HOCKEY

Lillyman makes London pay a double penalty

By Sydney Friskin

After two days of hard labour *in the field* Universities Athletic Union and Cambridge qualified for today's final of the British Universities Sports Federation tournament at Heddon-on-the-Wall, Newcastle yesterday. UAU, last year's winner, beat London 4-0 in the semi-final found and Cambridge overcame stubborn resistance from Northern Ireland to win 2-0.

UAU's entry into the final was foreshadowed earlier when they completed their group matches with a 6-0 victory over Trinity College Dublin, running up a tally of 17 goals in three matches with only two conceded. They are clear favourites to retain the trophy.

London, who had a bad season, played exceptionally well in this tournament and held UAU in check for 12 mins. before Lillyman scored to put the champions ahead. London suffered another setback when Kong, one of their best forwards was taken to hospital with an arm injury and further recession was to follow.

A goal by Gordon scored on the follow-up from a short corner enabled UAU to go into the interval 2-0 ahead, a lead which was increased in the second half when Lillyman converted two penalty strokes. London rallied towards the end and forced two short corners.

Cambridge, who completed *their group* matches with a 2-2 draw with London in the morning, had a more hazardous passage into the final and were lucky to survive a number of spirited attacks by Northern Ireland early in the second half when shots from close range by Heggarty and McCabe just missed the target.

Apart from that Northern Ireland succeeded in disrupting Cambridge's rhythm until Lewis *broke through on his own* towards the end to earn a penalty stroke which Atkinson converted. Lewis made the game safe for Cambridge by scoring the second goal soon after off a pass from the right by Scott. So, Cambridge reached the final only for the second time, having won the title on their only previous entry into the final in 1969.

Oxford, winners in 1980, will complete a disappointing tournament. Trinity College Dublin were unlucky to lose on penalty strokes to Scotland who will play off with Wales today for fifth place.

Group A: Scotland 0, Cambridge 6; London 0, Oxford 0; Scotland 1, London 3; Cambridge 4, Oxford 1; Scotland 3, Oxford 2; Cambridge 2, London 2.
Group B: Trinity College Dublin 0, Northern Ireland 0; Wales 1, UAU 8, Trinity College Dublin 0, Wales 3; Northern Ireland 1, UAU 3, Trinity College 0, UAU 6; Northern Ireland 5, Wales 1.
Semi-final round: Cambridge 2, Northern Ireland 0; UAU 4, London 0.

HORSE TRIALS

Olympian makes his mark

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Richard Meade, the most garlanded of all our international three-day event riders, added the first novice class at the Downlands (Liphook) horse trials yesterday to the one he captured at Weston Park in Shropshire on Saturday. He was riding the same horse, Timoru, owned by George Wimpey, and he is currently in the lead for the national points championsip.

Ann Loriston-Clarke, aged 17, *daughter of Mrs Anthony Loriston-Clarke*, the world bronze medallist in dressage, did well to keep Captain Mark Phillips out of second place on the Range Rover team's Out and About.

This Downlands fixture, now in its 20th year, is fated to be the last, as Woolmer Farm is to be sold. Mrs Kenneth Poland, who initially organized this highly successful meeting with her late husband, is an ardent supporter *of the sport*.

RESULTS: Midland Bank Section A: 1, R Meade's Timoru, 37; 2, S Preston's Honey Crown, 40; 3, J Seddon's Greenhill (Mrs W King), 42. Section B: 1, E Horgan's Zipper Boy, 37; 2, Miss J Turner's Mr Kemp, 37; 3, M Etherington Smith's Hoding Courage, 44. Section C: 1, B Goyons de Gonsch's April Chilemar, 33; 2, J Rowcliffe's William VIII, 42; 3, Miss M MacDonald's Smart Alec, 44. Section D: 1, B Green's Mandina, 33; 2, Miss A Loriston-Clarke's Wollintonia, 47; 3, Range Rover team's Out and About (Capt M Phillips), 47. Section E: 1, B Wookey's Blackthorn of Rushall (Mrs M Tucker), 35; 2, Miss C Cholmeley's Rugan, 38; 3, Investment Interest's Bogart (Miss J Aitken), 41.

FOOTBALL

Nicholas is linked with a move to the Midlands

Nicholas, Arsenal's midfield player, was last night at the centre of a deadline day transfer mystery. Nicholas went to Wales's match against the World Cup hosts Spain in Valencia amid rumours that he was set to sign for a Midlands club.

"I have had calls from my wife and my agent, but I am not sure what is going on," he said. Nicholas lost his Arsenal place four games ago after the 2 — 0 home defeat by Swansea City. It has been rumoured that Nicholas could be moving to Coventry City in exchange for the striker Garry Thompson, bur Arsenal would also have to make a cash adjustment and their manager Terry Neill last night denied knowledge of the deal. "It is news to me," he said.

Coincidentally, Arsenal paid £400,000 for Nicholas on deadline day a year ago with Price moving to Selhurst Park as part of the deal. Although Nicholas has been happy at Highbury he acknowledged: "The way things are at the moment I would have to be interested in a move but I just want to forget about it until after Wales's game." Nicholas is waiting to hear further news from his agent and said: "There is a chance I could be met at the airport tomorrow."

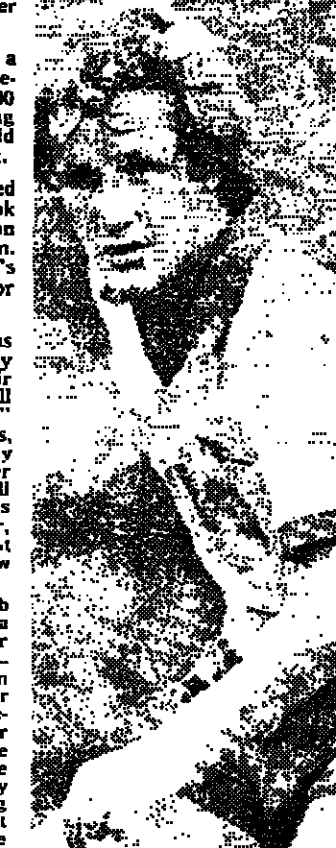
The transfer deadline puts the brake on football's merry-go round at 5.00 pm today after a season which has seen a £10m slump in deals to reflect the economic plight of the game. Up to last night there had been approximately 200 transfers, with just a handful this week, including the former England winger Thomas's free trasfer to Middlesbrough from Vancouver Whitecaps.

Yesterday Southampton led a late dash when Lawrie McMenemy paid Oxford United £230,000 for the third division's leading scorer Cassells and an 18-year-old England youth defender, Wright.

In exchange Oxford signed Hebberd for £80,000, and took the striker Lawrence on loan until the end of the season. Oxford also signed Watford's midfield player, Train, for £10,000.

Crystal Pllace may be active as well. After the the 2-0 defeat by Leicester City on Tuesday their manager Steve Kember said: "All my players are available." Several of them, including Wicks, Cannon and Hilaire, have already handed in written transfer requests and Mr Kember will spend the last few hours anxiously looking for a striker, having been denied Swindlehurst of Derby and Worthington, now with Leeds United.

The fourth division club Hartlepool have received a £30,000 offer from Orient for their leading scorer, Houchen — and they have to accept even though it is less than half their valuation of the player. Hartlepool's chairman Vince Barker said: "We value Keith at more than double the bid, but because of our financial position we may be forced to accept. We are being pressured into selling." Orient are also talking terms with the defender Peach, who was released by Swindon Town ealier this season.


Nicholas: signed for Arsenal only a year ago.

Ireland are routed on their route to Spain

From Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent
Paris, March 24

France 4
Northern Ireland 0

Northern Ireland disintegrated in this World Cup warmup match at the Parc des Princes, a breathtaking goal from a volley by Genghini completing their night of misery. It was their second setback in as many starts — their first was against Spain — in their runup to the finals in June.

McIlroy should have scored within five minutes and Brotherston within 10. Lopez, an experienced centre half alongside Tresor, his senior partner, was clearly at fault on both occasions. First he tapped Brotherston's pass into the path of McIlroy, who sensibly declined the use of power but his precision was awry.

Brotherston decided to take on the whole of France's central defence. Already weaving with conspicuous success wide on the right, he ran fully 50 yards, leaving three shirts behind him before lifting his effort over.

The Irish wings were clipped when Cochrane strained a thigh muscle and gave way to Stewart, who has appeared in only three full League games for Queens Park Rangers, to gain his first cap.

Giresse, a diminutive figure who would have looked more appropriate seated on a racehorse, made the breakthrough after half an hour. He discovered a hole on the right, wriggled through it and crossed from the byline to the far post. Zenier, selected for the second time as part of an experimental foward line, headed neatly home.

The Irish, by now becoming ragged, were fortunate to concede only one more goal before the interval. Platt, Jenning's patient understudy, kept out two attempts from Bellone and Bossis but he failed to hold on to Zenier's drive on the stroke of half-time. Couriol, following up, squeezed in the rebound.

In enough disarray already, the Irish helped France to a third goal after 55 minutes. Brotherston slipped in midfield, Larios, almost risibly gargantuan beside his tiny colleague, Giresse, strode through the vacant defence, but was blocked by Platt; the ball fell loose to Bellone. Platt brought him down and Larios scored emphatically from the penalty spot.

Billy Bingham, in need of lifting his sagging troops, made two substitutions, bringing on one Tulsa Roughneck, Caskey, for another, McCreery, and replacing McIlroy with Spence. France, too, introduced Battison for Lopez and, later, Soler for Couriol. By then, though, it was merely an exhibition of their undouted skills.

FRANCE: J Castaneda; M Amoros, M Bossis, C Lopez, M Tresor, J F Larios, A Couriol, A Giresse, B Bellone, BGenghini, J Zenier
NORTHERN IRELAND: J Platt; J Nicholl, C Nicholl, J O'Neill, M Donaghy, D McCreery, N Brotherston, M O'Neill, G Armstrong, S McIlroy, T Cochrane, (sub, Stewart).
Referee: M Verhaeghe (Belgium)

Yesterday's results

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Spain 1, Wales 1.
UEFA UNDER-21: Quarter-final Scotland 0, Italy 0.
FIRST DIVISION: West Bromwich Albion 2, Notts County 4.
THIRD DIVISION: Exeter City 1, Lincoln City 2.
FOURTH DIVISION: Peterborough United 1, Torquay United 0.
SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Cowdenbeath 1, Arbroath 2; Forfar Athletic 1, Clyde 3.

BADMINTON

Baddeley beaten and far from fit

By Richard Eaton

The world and European women's champions and the English national men's champion all fell on the first day of the All-England championships sponsored by John Player at Wembley Arena yesterday. Fitness and form can fluctuate quickly; none was the upset that it seemed on paper. More important were their consequences.

Lisalotte Blumer, of Switzerland, was beaten as comprehensively 11-5, 11-2, by the Japanese Sumiko Kitada only one month before she defends her European title that it is very hard to see her defending it effectively.

Steve Baddeley, pulled out of the England v Japan series more than a month ago and needed for the Thomas Cup in two months time, suggested in his first match back that he is still far from fit. The English national champion lost 15-11, 5-15, 12-15 to 19-year-old Torben Carlsen, who does not even play regularly for his club in the Danish league. The Baddeley chest virus has been so long-lasting that the defeat is an especially worrying one.

Verawaty Fajrin, who has married since winning the world title in 1980 and whose results have nose-dived, lost 5-11, 4-11 to the 19 years old Zeng Yuli. The significance of this is that the Chinese, playing their first All-England, had scored a win over Indonesia, hitherto regarded as the leading badminton nation. Many more battles will have to be contested before supremacy can be decided but for the moment it is first blood for the newcomers.

Yuli in any case is an interesting character. She is Chinese national champion, but insists that Zhang Ailing, the top seed here, is better than her. She is tiny yet her father, improbably, is a basketball coach. She bubbles and she enthuses. "I come here to learn," she says, but it very much looked the other way about. Her first trip abroad in November brought her the scalp of the world runner-up, Lie Ivana, and the women's singles title in the Indian Masters. Now she is handing out lessons in anticipation and mobility to the world champion.

More curious still was the intermittent progress of 19-year-old Catherine Troke, of Southampton to the competition proper for the first time. Two years ago she won two qualifying matches but was denied acceptance when she lost to her younger sister Helen. This time Catherine went one better and made it to the first round. Her reward for reaching Wembley was another match with her sister, who has since become England's youngest-ever international at the age of 16 last year. "I have never beaten her," complained catherine, who thus time lost 11-3, 11-4, but she will get another chance. The withdrawal of Scotland's Pam Hamilton allows her to play today in the first round of the women's doubles with Alison Fulton. Their opponents are Jill Pringle of Lancashire and, inevitably, sister Helen.

There were defeats for England's numbers one and three, Ray Stevens and Nick Yates to Chinese players but there were some useful English wins too. Wendy Massam, national under-21 champion, had a splendid 11-6, 12-10 win over Canada's Wendy Carter, seeded eighth last year.

Diane Simpson, England's number eight last season, but possibly lower at the moment, beat last year's semi-finalist, Kirsten Larsen, who is also Danish national champion. But the leading Danish player, the redoubtable Lene Koppen, who is seeded second, beat England's other national champion Jane Webster 11-3. 11-12.11-3.

MEN'S SINGLES

FIRST ROUND. Li Yongpo (China) beat P Whetnall (England) 15-3, 15-8; P Sutton (Wales) beat B MacDougall Canada) 10-15, 15-12, 15-0; N Yates (England) beat G Robson (New Zealand) 15-8, 15-5, R Stevens (England) beat C Dobson (England) 15-11, 15-8; S Butler (England beat K Priestman (Canada) 15-11, 15-4; J Guoliang (China) beat D Tailor (England 15-3, 15-12, L Jim (china) beat J Ford (England) 15-5, 15-9, T Carlsen (Denmark) beat S Baddeley (England) 11-15, 15-5, 15-12; K Jolly (England) beat M Neergaard (Denmark) 15-8, 15-3, P Padukone (India) beat N Tier (England) 15-5, 15-3

WOMEN'S SINGLES

FIRST ROUND: H Troke (England) beat C Troke (England) 11-3, 11-4; S Hwang (Korea) beat G Gowers (England) 11-1, 11-4, W Massam (England), beat W Carter (Canada) 11-6, 12-10
SECOND ROUND: G Weizhen (China) beat F Tohkairin (Japan) 5-11, 11-6, 11-4, G Troke (England) beat R Sorensen (Denmark) 12-9, 12-9; S Kitada (Japan) beat C Magnussen (Sweden) 11-4, 11-3; Lie Ivana (Indonesia) beat S Skillings (Canada) 11-3, 11-2

ROWING

Fever on the Tideway

By Jim Railton

There was a touch of race fever on the Tideway yesterday as the Oxford and Cambridge crews made their final preparation for Saturday's Boat Race (2.30). The umpire, Cambridge's Michael Muir-Smith, was present for the rehearsals; a BBC camera crew was afloat with stage managers ashore, and for the first time the Cambridge camp reported a full complement.

On Tuesday evening there was a rumour that Camnbridge would row a substitute yesterday. Their freshman at five, Bruce Philp — the heaviest man in this year's Boat Race at 213 lbs — had a stomach upset on Tuesday evening during Cambridge's contest with a British lightweight eight.

No doubt a three and a half length win over their opponents on Tuesday evening and an official record from Hammersmith Bridge to the Mile Post by four seconds strengthened his and Cambridge's resolve. In a critical stage in the Boat Race build-up, Philp was after all in the Cambridge boat yesterday.

But just as important was the appearnace of Cambridge's boatman Alf Twinn for the first time since the crew's arrival on the Tideway for their final fortnight's preparations.

Mr Twinn is Cambridge's greatest stalwart; illness had kept him away for the first time ever until yesterday afternoon. Mr Twinn's encouragement to his charges, however, is not to be underestimated.

From the stake-boat yesterday starts the crews had varying starts. Oxford moved off at the fastest rating and then descended progressively to a workmanlike race. Cambridge moved off at a slightly lower rate and then wound up to their race tempo. A good race is in prospect.

OXFORD: *N A Connington (Hampton and Oriel) bow, G R N Holland (Radley and Oriel). H E Clay (Eton and Magdalen). * R P Yonge (King's Canterbury and New College). *N B Rankov (Bradford GS and St Hugh's), S J L Foster (Brentwood and Pembroke). A K Kirkpatrick (Methodist College, Belfast, Durham University and Oriel) R C Clay (Eton and New College) stroke, S Brown (Taunton and Wadham) cox.

CAMBRIDGE: P S J Brine (St Edwards and LMBC) bow A T Knight (Hampton and Clare), *R J Stephens (KCS Wimbledon and Emmanuel) N J Bliss (Barnard Castle and Corpus), B M Philp (Bryanston and Downing), C D Heard (Shrewsbury and LMBC) E M G Pearson (King's Canterbury and Jesus), S A Harris (Desborough and Queens' stroke, I P Bernstein (City of London and Emmanuel' cox

ROUND-UP

SQUASH RACKETS

Success on new stage

By Rex Bellamy

As a spectator sport squash must in future be measured against the hazardously experimental but remarkably successful presentation of the Patrick tournament at the Chichester Festival Theatre. For the quarter final round about 1,200 people, close to the theatre's capacity, packed around the "thrust" stage and viewed play through the back and side walls of a Plexi Glass court. The entire scene was a thrilling advance on anything the game has known. The side-wall spectacle was particularly satisfying. If the monitors are any guide the tournament may also have raised televised squash to a level never previously attained.

In retrospect all this will matter more than the fact that, in the first half of the programme, the British open men's champion and the British national women's champion progressed to the finals. Geoff Hunt beat Hidayat Jahan 9-7, 4-9, 7-9, 9-1, 9-5 in an hour and 38 minutes and Lisa Opie, so fluently versatile that one wished her talents had been on view for longer, took only 30 minutes to beat Ruth Strauss 9-3, 9-4, 9-5. They looked a class apart, which they are not.

Jahan beat Hunt at Stockton nine days earlier and now took charge again. Often Hunt did not get to the ball fast enough nor bend to it freely enough. But Hunt played an exemplary fourth game while Jahan was coasting. In the fifth Jahan led 5-2 but was discomposed by a few dubious refereeing decisions and, later, publicly criticised the appointment of referees by a system that he clearly felt might be described, in topical parlance, as an abuse of "flexible rostering".

Jahamgir Khan, the world champion, beat Qamar Zaman 9-3, 9-0, 9-3, and the Women's British Open champion, Vicki Cardwell, beat Susan Cogswell 10-8, 4-9, 4-9, 9-0, 9-1.

FOOTBALL

Referee draws his gun

Belgrade, March 24 — A Yugoslav football referee had to pull out his pistol to defend himself from enraged home players and supporters, the newspaper *Vecernje Novosti* reported here today. "I started carrying a gun when refereeing became a dangerous occupation, but this was the first time I had to use it," the referee, Vladimir Stojkovic, told the paper.

The incident took place last Sunday when Mr Stojkovic was refereeing a regional league game in Sabac, a Serbian town 48 miles west of here.

"After the match, during which I awarded a penalty to the visitors and had to send off a home player, the local players and their fans just broke into my locker room," he said.

"They started hitting me and they had broken bottles and umbrellas in their hands and when I saw that I was really threatened I pulled out my gun and they dispersed." No shots were fired.

The home players and supporters apparently blamed the referee for their team's defeat. The newspaper said refereeing in small regional leagues, where matches are played in Serbian villages, had become a very hazardous profession and claimed that referees were frequently beaten after a home team lost.

The local police usually turned a blind eye when a referee was threatened, the paper said. It gave accounts of recent incidents in which one referee almost lost an eye after being hit with a stone, another suffered a broken rib in being beaten by supporters; another had his nose broken; another was beaten and his car destroyed: and yet another was stripped naked by supporters and thrown into a thorny bush. — AP.

Dutch courage on road to Spain

By NORMAN FOX

For all the extenuating circumstances, Scotland's 2-1 win over the Netherlands in a largely insignificant "friendly match" at Hampden Park on Tuesday did little for reputations and gave only a mild fillup to team spirit.

The absence of Souness, Hansen, Robertson and Hartford could not be concealed even against a young and only partly rebuilt Dutch team. Hansen in particular was missed. His placid authority and considered forays into the opposition's half cannot easily be replaced.

The Dutch obviously still produce skilful players despite continuing domestic difficulties. They infiltrated the Scottish penalty area with disturbing regularity in a second half much changed from the first.

Even before injuries weakened his squad, Jock Stein, the Scotland manager, was committed to using this last match against foreign opposition before the World Cup as an experiment, and he was not deterred. At half-time, with Scotland deservedly 2-1 ahead but the Dutch beginning to establish rhythm in their own inexperienced side, they replaced Dalglish and Archibald with Brazil and Burns. The effect was to disjoint the flowing attacks which had been seen at their best in a memorable second goal by Dalglish who began and ended a 50 yard move.

The two new caps, Evans and Bett, were not disgraced nor were they instant successes. Neither is likely to dislodge the reglar player in his position. Evans suffered the problems of trying to mark the remarkably promising young Dutch centre-forward, Kieft. Bett, quiet but efficient, perhaps found it difficult to distinguish himself in a totally new mid-field often reinforced by retreating Dalglish and controlled by the reliable Narey.

Without Robertson's service from the wing, Jordan had to fight for passes which usually came from behind, but there was no lack of determinaton in his game. Mr. Stein identified him for special praise, though his overall performance was not enhanced by Italian-style dramatics intended to win the eye of an unimpressed English referee. The partnership of Dalglish and Brazil is more likely to open good world cup defences.

All of Scotland's best football was concentrated in a first half in which they benefitted from an early penalty by Frank Gray. Th Dutch were subdued until Metgod seemed to expose all of the Scottish defensive faults in one movement by finding space to head in. An off-side decision saved Scotland who had been given false security by the second goal scored by Dalglish from Jordan's feather-flicked pass.

Kieft's header past Rough after half an our confirmed doubts about a hesitant defence. Even the Dutch team manager Kees Rijvers, said: "You will need Hansen."

Nevertheless, with Gray fending off influenza and Rough slowed by a leg injury, the outcome was satisfactory, especially after losing to Portugal and Spain. Mr Stein could enjoy some reserved pleasure for having pulled Scotland through a potentially difficult occasion before 71,000 demanding and moderately pleased supporters.

Decision day for Scottish clubs

Hillhead is not the only part of Glasgow where an important decision will be taken today. At the offices of the Scottish Football League in the city, the fate of the League structure north of the border will be decided.

Scotland's 38 senior clubs vote on a controversial plan hatched by the Scottish League management committee to change the League format and the unofficial opinion polls indicate a result as close as the predictions for the Hillhead constituency.

According to the legislators, who convene today's extraordinary annual meeting, it is a plan "to safeguard the future of the game in Scotland as we know it." To some managers and officials the proposal is welcomed. Others have described it as "a coward's charter" designed to protect the teams struggling for premier division survival year after year.

The plan is to replace the present three-tier system of 10, 14, and 14 clubs with a split of 16, 12, and 12, which would necessitate bringing in two new clubs into the bottom division. To succeed the plan requires a two-thirds majority, in other words 26 votes, and athe Scottish League are confident their proposal will go through safely.

The Scottish League president David Letham says: "Certain clubs could not survive a prolonged stay outside the top division. This would mean certain demise. It is essential to expand the top league despite the fact that there could be a drop in income for some clubs."

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Friendly
Athletico Bilbao (0) 1 — England XI (1) 1
Serabia, 40,00 — Keegan

Friendly international
Scotland (2) — Netherlands (1) 1
Dalglish, Gray (pen) — Kieft, 71,848

Under-21 International
Wales (1) 2 — Netherlands (2) 2

European Youth Championship Qualifying round (second leg)
England (2) 2 — Scotland (0) 2
Pearson, Walters — McStay, Dobbin
Scotland won 3-2 on aggregate — 2,295

First division
Birmingham C (0) 0 — Tottenham H (0) 0
17,770

Second division
Barnsley (2) 3 — Grimsby (0) 2
Aylott, Walker, Banks — Drinkell, Whymark
15,383
Chrysal Palace (0) 0 — Leicester C (2) 2
9,506 — Lineker, Lynex

Third division
Carlisle U (2) 2 — Reading (0) 1
Coughlin, Robson — Webb (pen), 4,557
Doncaster R (0) 1 — Oxford U (0) 1
Lister, 3,800 — Seacole
Huddersfield T (1) 1 — Chesterfield (0) 1
Lillis, 6,721 — Windridge
Wimbledon (2) 3 — Southend U (0) 0
Smith, Evans, Joseph — 2,0521

Fouth division
Crewe A (0) 1 — Hereford U (0) 0
Pallos, — 1,326
Darlington (2) 2 — Hull C (0) 1
Speadie, Walsh — Flounders, 2,651
Halifax T (0) 0 — Bradford C (0) 0
5,928
Northampton T (3) 5 — York C (0) 0
Buchanan (2), Perrin, Czuezman (og), Aitken (og) — 2,452
Scunthorpe U (0) 1 — Aldershot (1) 1
Telfer, 1,658 — Sanford
Sheffield U (0) 1 — Wigan Ath (0) 0
Edwards. — 22,336

FA TROPHY Fourth round replay: Bishop's Stortford 1, Altrincham 3
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Frickley 2, Runcorn 0; Stafford Rangers 0, Boston United 0, Trowbridge 1, Scarborough 3
IRISH LEAGUE: Ards 1 Linfield 2
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: President's Cup: semi-final round, second leg: Burton Albion 1, Goole 1 (aggregate, 1-3) League: Netherfield 0, Buxton 0, Witton Albion 3, Macclesfield 0
CENTRAL LEAGUE: Bolton Wanderers 0 Burnley 1, Bury 0, everton 4; Derby Co 0, Nottingham Forest 4, Liverpool 0, Preston 1
RUGBY UNION: CLUB MATCHES.— Cheltenham 0, Gloucester 23, Neath 26, Cross Keys 4; Rugby 7, Leicester 28 Gordonians 11, Aberdeen Grammer School FP 10; North Berwick 4, Haddington 10, Old Aloysians 12, Stirling County 36

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Southern: Wealdstone v Hounslow.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Second division: Southall v Cheshunt
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Chelsea v Leicester (2 15), Plymouth v Crystal Palace (2.15)
MIDDLESEX CHARITY CUP: Semi-final replay Hendon v Finchley
BUSF GROUP CHAMPIONSHIP: at Bangor University
HOCKEY: BUSF group championship at (Newcastle University)
BADMINTON: All England Championships at (Wembley Arena)
LACROSSE: BUSF group tournament at (Wellington Playing Fields, Southampton)
RACKETS: Public Schools doubles championships at (Queen's, Club)

RUGBY UNION

Barbarians linger but not long

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent

East Midlands 22
Barbarians 35

For some while at Franklin's Gardens yesterday it looked as if East Midlands would have the rare pleasure of a win over their traditional opponents in the Edgar Mobbs Memorial match, which is sponsored these days by Carlsberg. They established an early lead of ten points — with any luck at all it might have been more — against a side, including 13 internationals, which then looked a very scratch combination indeed.

by the second half, however, the Barbarians had started to get their act together and, once the bandwaggon was rolling, they threatened to overwhelm their hosts with five spanking tries. Though heavily outgunned behind the scrummage East Midlands stuck to their last and had the consolation of getting two late scores themselves. They went down by two goals, two penalty goals and a try to the Barbarians' three goals, three penalties and two tries.

Most of the Barbarians' tries were run in from a long way out. Swift got the first, from inside his own half, rounding the opposing full back with some panache after Evans had made space for him with a nicely-timed intervention from full back. Swift might soon, but for a rousing cover tackle by Cannon, have notched another.

The next went to Davies, with an electric piece of acceleration in support of a drive by the forwards. Then Davies stabbed out of deep defence to launch Dodge for the third try. Dodge had Swift clear on his right but dummied inside, withstanding the last tackle.

The pace and strength of Ackerman then crowned a tapped penalty move, and the fifth try went to Swift when Dodge somehow found room for a scoring pass in an area well populated by covering defenders.

The East Midlands pack had made all the early running with fine commitment and drive, and a regular supply of lineout ball, mostly from Wilkinson, who enjoyed an outstanding first half. Ebsworth bit two penalty goals, but missed two more. The flanker, Sweet, got a try in support of a churn by Eales and there were several close calls.

By the interval, Evans had landed two penalties to make the score 10-6. Early in the second period he got another to prepare the way for more spectacular things. He also converted three of the tries.

Peck, with his lively,rounded game at scrum half, kept his side going in the face of adversity, and launched two successful tapped moves at the climax. Wilkinson did the bulk of the work for the first of these tries, and then Eales rounded it off. Cannon thundered over for the second and Ebsworth was able to kick two more goals.

EAST MIDLANDS (Northampton unless stated): M Humberstone (Richmond), M Summers, D Woodrow (rep, J Cubitt), R Barrow, N Underwood, M Ebsworth, I Peck (Bedford, captain), S Ashton (Bedford), J Raphael, N Fox, Sweet, V Cannon, R Wilkinson (Bedford), A Whitehouse (Bedford). R Eales (Bedford).
BARBARIANS: G Evans (Maesteg), R Ackerman (Newport), P Dodge (Leicester), N Preston (Richmond), A Swift (Swansea), G H Davies (Coventry), S J Smith (Sale, captain), C Williams (Swansea), A Simpson (Sale), I Milne (Heriot's FP), N Carr (Queen's University, Belfast), W Cuthbertson (Headingley), R Hesford (Bristol).
Referee: B Abrahams (East Midlands).

● Robert Bennett, the British schools 100 metres champion, helped England to a handsome 40-6 victory in their 16 group schools international against Portugal at Twickenham yesterday. The Bristol Cathedral schoolboy, who is also the national triple jump champion, scored three tries as England won by five goals, a try and two penalty goals to two penalties.

The stand-off, Roberts, completed Portugal's misery by contributing 16 points with five conversions and two penalties. Their other try-scorers were Godfrey, Carbert and Hobbs. Portugal's two goals were kicked by Nobrega.

Why Welshmen avoid the Arms Park

By Gerald Davies

During last year's Welsh centenary season friends living in Gwent preferred to travel eastwards down the M4 to London rather than westwards to Cardiff to watch international rugby.

This could have been construed as being typical of the ambivalent attitude which is associated with the border county. But they did so in the sincere belief that they were more likely to see an exiting spectacle at Twickenham than at the Arms Park. The game for them had become too dour and inhibited at Cardiff.

That Wales lost to Scotland last Saturday came as no great surprise and to some it will come as a relief. It just might be the spur that is required for a fresh look at the game.

Ever since the comprehensive defeat suffered by Wales at the hands of the All Blacks last year and the lack of try-scoring ablitity thereafter — apart from the powerful exploits of Holmes at scrum half — it has been accepted that the 14-year-old unbeaten record in the five nations' championship was in danger. It was the margin and the manner of Scotland's victory — with tries settling the issue rather than penalties — that took the breath away.

The blow was softened for many Welshmen because the Scots' style of play over the last decade, though not successful in terms of results, has been much admired. For once, Scotland's Murrayfield form was recaptured for the benefit of the Arms Park crowd. Each of their tries received the kind of applause normally reserved for Wales.

Wales' downward curve has been apparent for some time. While the team continued to win in the home championship the truth that rugby in Wales is at a low ebb was not universally acknowledged. Now that they share the bottom of the table with France and that the unbeaten record has gone the message is there for all to see. This messsage is mainly for the players and coaches at club level.John Lloyd the Welsh coach, is despondent at the lack of enterprise and of basic skills in club matches.

Wales failed miserably to take advantage of the majority share of possession whereas Scotland with less took maximum advantage of theirs. Furthermore counter-attack, an almost forgotten art in Wales, is a simple yet potent form of play which the Scottish three quarters exploited.

George Burrell, a member of the Scottish committee and a man from Gala, explained their approach by extolling the virtues of the seven-a side game. Although there is a world of difference between 15-a-side and seven-a side rugby there are certain skills which should not be ignored, such as using possession wisely and attacking attitudes (as well as running and support play).

Mr Burrell highlighted Baird's presence of mind when he picked up Gareth Davies' chip ahead which led to the first try. Instead of using safety-first tactics and kicking to touch to put a stop to a potentially dangerous Welsh attack he kept his head and ran. Three forwards were in support before Calder scored at the other end. This is not the answer in itself to Welsh problems but the point was well made.

John Lloyd's three-year term comes to an end this season. Moves are afoot to appoint two recently retired players to take over coaching: Terry Cobner, of Pontypool, might have responsibility over the forwards and John Bevan, from Aberavon, may attend to the more pressing duties of re-establishing some cohesion and enterprise in the backs.

Millfield win for third time

By Peter Marson

RGS Guildford 6
Millfield 22

Millfield, winners here in 1969, 1975 and 1979, once more proved to be the outstanding side in the open competition of the National Schools seven a side tournament at Roehampton yesterday in a rather one-sided final where they beat a gallant seven from RGS Guildford by three goals and a try to a try.

Mucklow, Millfield's captain, was the tournament's heaviest scorer and he ran in two tries and landed two conversions. Oti and Nairne also scored tries, Devonald converting one, while May converted his own try for Sevenoaks.

It was marvellously sunny and mild again, and with a dry ball and firm going conditions were perfect. A fascinating day had begun with the noonday meeting in the bye round between St Edward's, Liverpool, winners of Group A and West Parl, winners of Group B. This was an excellent match, the forerunner of many more in the top half of the draw, and in other circumstances it would have made a mouth-watering final.

Claiming the odd two points in 26 St Edward's moved on. But, the sixth round was effectively the end of the road for them. Beaten surprisingly easily by RGS Guildford, and another two excellent sides, Ampleforth and Maidstone. The last match at this stage between Durham and Merchant Taylor's Crosby was a close affair, too, with a conversion deciding the issue.

GROUP G: Maidstone 12 St Mary & St Joseph 4: Eltham College 8 King Williams 4.
GROUP H: Wirral GS 28 Brockley 0; Llandovery 32 King Henry VIII 4.
GROUP K: De la Salle 20 St Olaves 6; Brynteg 36 Ashville 6.
GROUP L: Royal Belfast AI 16 City of London Freeman 0; Gunnersbury 18 Broxbourne 10.
GROUP M: Cwmtawe 17, King Edward VI, Nuneaton 6, Judd 22, Bishop Wand 6.
GROUP N: Normanton 18, St Joseph's, Ipswich 4; Queen Elizabeth 10, Latymer Upper 6.
GROUP O: London Oratory 22, Rydal 0; Newcastle under Lyme 14, Aylesbury 10
GROUP P: Sir Thomas Picton 14, Austin Friars 10: Hymers 2, Blackpool 0.
GROUP Q: Merchant Taylors 13, Beverley 0; Harford CS 14, Morley 12.
BYE ROUND: St Edwards, Liverpool 14, West Park, Lancashire 12.
FIRST ROUND: Cowley 18, Ampleforth 8.
KNOCK OUT FIRST ROUND: Royal GS Guildford 16, St Edward's, Liverpool 6; Cowley 18, Ampleforth 8; Campion 16, Maidstone 6; Llandover 22, Dulwich 0; Millfield 20, Brynteg 0; Royal Belfast 16, Cwmtawe 6; Queen Elizabeth's 8, London Oratory 4; Merchant Taylors 12, Durham 10
QUARTER FINALS: RGS Guildford 19 Cowley 8: Campion 12 Llandovery 10; Millfield 24 Royal Belfast 6, Merchant Taylors 16 Queen Elizabeth's 4.
SEMI-FINALS: RGS Guildford 26 Campion 10; Millfield 22 Merchant Taylors, Crosby 4.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

SANTIAGO. Friendly international: Chile 2, Peru 1
STUTTGART: European youth championships: West Germany 1, France 0
ABU DHABI: Gulf tournament: Kuwait 2, United Arab Emirates 0.
EREVAN: European under-21 championship, quarter-final second leg: Soviet Union 4, France 2 (Soviet Union win 4—2 on agg).

TENNIS

MILAN: Cuore Cup. J Connors (US) beat N Saviano (US), 6—2, 6—1; I Natase (Romania) beat B Gottfried (US), 1—6, 6—1, 7—6; K Curren (SA) beat A Panatta (Italy), 6—3, 3—6, 6—1. Second round: M Edmondson (Australia) beat C Hooper (US), 6—3, 3—6, 6—3.
NEW YORK: Avon championship: First round, Red Group: W Turnbull (Australia) beat K Jordan (US), 6—1, 6—3.
WOMEN'S EARNINGS (US unless stated): 1, M. Navratilova $173,700; 2, A. Jaeger 95,712; 3, B Potter 82,100; 4, M Jausovec (Yugoslavia) 77,637; 5, W. Turnbull 71,800; 6, K. Jourdan 70,425; 7, A Smith 70,250; 8, B. Bunge 54,425; 9, P Shriver 49,350; 10, S. Hanika (WG) 48,250.

GOLF

WOMEN'S EARNINGS (US unless stated) 1, N. Lopez-Melton $52,743; 2 H Stacey 51,216; 3, S Little 50,788; 4, J. Carner 50,550; 5, B Daniel 47,457; 6, A Okamoto (Japan) 43,241; 7, A Alcott 38,153; 8, P. Sheehan 27,438; K. Whitworth 25,122; 10, S Haynie 24,284; 126, J. Lee Smith (GB) 262.

SNOOKER

KILL: Irish Masters, first round: D Taylor (Blackburn) beat D Sheehan (Dublin), 5—3 (70—36, 70—47, 69—29, 46—79, 74—33, 33—88, 40—71, 58—27); T Moo (Holborn) beat J Spencer (Radcliffe), 5—3 (60—53, 87—2, 40—73, 1—79, 65—51, 60—52, 15—69, 69—30).

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Islanders 8, Washington Capitals 1
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Group B (Klagenfurt): East Germany 3, Netherlands 1; Netherlands 6, Switzerland 1; Switzerland 4, China 4; Poland 12, Norway 3; Group C (Jaca): Hungary 8, Spain 1; Yugoslavia 21, South Korea 2.

SQUASH RACKETS

LEIGH: Lifting Gear Hire tournament (GB unless stated) G Williams beat M. Thornley 9-5, 9-0, 9-0; A, Gill beat N Duckworth 9-3, 9-5, 9-2; D, Hindle beat A. Bennett 9-2, 9-2, 9-3, W Farrell beat C, Sinclair 9-0, 9-2, 9-3, T. Salisbury beat C. McManus 6-9, 9-6, 9-1, 6-9, 9-1; T McGuire w/o R. Greaves; J. Davis w/o D. McCallum; P Nance (Australia) beat Z, Salah 9-0, 9-5, 2-9, 9-0; Fourth round Williams beat D. Pearson 9-6, 7-9, 9-1, 5-9, 9-3; Fahim Gul (Pakistan) beat Gill 10-9, 9-0, 9-7; C. Kaird beat Hindle 9-5, 6-9, 9-5, 9-6, S Bateman beat Farrell 9-2, 9-1, 9-4; T Salisbury beat B Watkins 10-8, 7-9, 9-6, 2-9, 9-5; C. Blackwood (NZ) beat McGuire 9-6, 9-0, 9-1, R. Mosley beat Davies 9-4, 9-7, 9-6, Daulat Khan (Pakistan) beat Nance 9-0, 9-5, 2-9, 9-0.
CHICHESTER: Patrick International Festival. Men's singles, semi-finals: Jahangir Khan (Pakistan) Beat Qamer Zaman (Pakistan) 9-3, 9-0, 9-3; G Hunt beat H Jahan (Pakistan) 9-7, 4-9, 7-9, 9-1, 9-5: Women's singles, semi-final: Miss L, Opie (Guernsey) beat Miss R Strauss (Essex) 9-3, 9-4, 9-5.

CURLING

GENEVA: Women's world championship, sixth round: Canada 8, France 6; Scotland 9, Sweden 8; Italy 9, United States 7; Norway 9, West Germany 4; Denmark 8, Switzerland 7 Seventh Round: Sweden 6, Canada 8; Denmark 14, France 4; United States 12, West Germany 7; Scotland 8, Switzerland 6, Norway 7, Italy 8.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Stellaland 12, South American B XV 49.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Scottish under 21 20, British Post Offices 19.
COURAGE CUP: Final: Blackheath 16, Sidcup 9

BASKET BALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: New York Knicks 120, Cleveland Cavaliers 97; Atlanta Hawks 107, Washington Bullets 87; San Antonio Spurs 106, San Diego Clippers 98; Boston Celtics 110, Chicago Bulls 103; Houston Rockets 117, Utah Jazz 115; Golden State Warriors 95, Phoenix Suns 91; Dallas Mavericks 118, Los Angeles Lakers 116; Milwaukee Bucks 109, Portland Trail Blazers 104.

CRICKET

SHELL SHIELD: Leeward Islands 184 and 264, Barbados 308 and 173 for 8 (C. King 88 not out).

SKIING

Mahre twin Phil takes Stenmark's giant slalom crown

American Phil Mahre has succeeded in his bid to depose Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden, as king of giant slalom. He clinched this season's championship by finishing third in the final event, at San Sicario, Italy, yesterday. First place was taken by Pirmin Zurbriggen, aged 19, of Switzerland, in a time of 2 min 42.37 sec.

Stenmark, who finished fifth today, needed at least a third place to retain the title he has won six times since 1975. Once undisputed champion, he has already relinquished a giant slalom title to Phil's twin brother, Steve, at the world skiing championships at Schladming last month.

Stenmark finished 11th over the first run and despite a brilliant second leg in which he recorded the fastest time, he was unable to gain the needed victory. "He had no chance", Mahre said of Stenmark. "He is not skiing a good giant slalom right now". Mahre added that Stenmark's superb second run was really of little value after "such a bad" first run. "He could not believe that the skiers ahead of him had been that fast", the American said. Zurbriggen clocked the fastest time in the first run, 1 min 25.67 sec, and Stenmark clocked 1:27.58.

Zurbriggen celebrated the first World Cup win of his young career. "I don't understnd what happened", said the former European junior downhill champion. "I skiied like a dream."

Today Erika Hess of Switzerland will be aiming to clinch the World Cup overall title in the final women's giant slalom of the season here.

MEN'S GIANT SLALOM: 1, P. Zurbriggen (Switzerland), 2:42.37; 2, M. Girardelli (Luxembourg), 2:43.03; 3, P. A. Mahre (United States), 2:43.15; 4, H. Enn (Austria), 2:44.15; 5, I. Stenmark (Sweden), 2:44.16; 6, J. Gaspoz (Switzerland), 2:44.23.
OVERALL WORLD CUP STANDINGS: 1, P. Mahre (United States) 304 pts; 2, I. Stenmark (Sweden) 211; 3, S. Mahre (United States) 184; 4, P. Müller (Switzerland) 132; 5, A. Wenzel (Lichtenstein), M. Girardelli (Luxembourg) 118.
FINAL GIANT SLALOM STANDINGS: 1, P. Mahre (United States) 105; 2, I. Stenmark (Sweden) 101; 3, H. Enn (Austria) 75; 4, M. Girardelli (Luxembourg) 74; 5, J. Gaspoz (Switzerland) 70; 6, S. Mahre (United States) 68.
NATIONS CUP: 1, Austria 1,388 pts; 2, Switzerland 1,329; 3, United States 1,117; 4, West Germany 600; 5, Italy 528; 6, France 506.

Zurbriggen: first success

GYMNASTICS

Star of razmatazz

By Peter Aykroyd

Susan Cheesebrough already has an honoured place in sports history as a gymnast who represented Britain at many international events including two Olympic Games. But now the 22 year old former British champion has a new and original status. She is Britain's first and only professional gymnast and a star of a successful troupe which established the arrival of commercial gymnastics during a recent and strenuous tour of the United States.

Now, enjoying a brief rest at her home in Southport, Merseyside, she is looking forward to the razmatazz of a second Americn tour.

The troupe, called the United States Professional Gymnastic Classic and Kurt Thomas former American champion and World silver medallist, barnstormed through 40 cities on the eastern side of the country in 11 weeks. Enthusiastic response from spectators has not only led to the immediate planning of a second tour but also to the possibility of an international display which would visit Europe.

Miss Cheesebrough, the only Briton taking part, said: "We had standing ovations at every show." Barry Woodward, the troupe's technical director, believes that it has shown that professional gymnastics was the up and coming entertainment.

He emphasized that it created an opportunity for gymnasts to gain some financial return on their years of dedication and hard training.

Another Briton who has shown interest in joining the troupe is Tommy Wilson, also a former British champion.

Formidable Victorian who ruled cricket for half a century

The lord who was one great sahib

The rumpus about the South African tour, and the continuing, boring row in Yorkshire, have been occupying most of such headlines as cricket can command at this time of year. Neither is a particularly attractive topic, and both involve Boycott, of whom I am weary of writing. It is a relief to turn to Lord Harris, a formidable figure of a previous generation, who died 50 years ago, March 24, 1932, 81 years old.

Harris is not character to whom it is easy, in retrospect, to warm. I once called him, in print, an antediluvian old tyrant, and though it was a phrase lured by the false enthusiasms of youth, I can still see what I meant. He was one of the major figures in the administration of cricket, in this country, for half a century.

Most of his decisions were probably for the good of the game: all of them were for what he *considered* to be the good of the game. He remained firmly Victorian in his oulook. He did not court popularity, and did not win it (Pelham Warner, for instance, was a more popular public figure, but the weaker character, at least off the field).

Many humbler cricketers of his time thought of Harris as "the old bastard", half-affectionately, as a private might think of his sergeant. None would have described him, even if the word was familiar to them, as "duplicitous".

Harris was a pretty good player, though not one of the great ones. He played for England in four Tests, once in Australia and three times at home, in the years 1879-84. He was captain in all of them, which was then natural if you had a peer of the realm in the side, and justified his place with a batting average of 29 for six innings, once *not out*.

He had many good performances for Kent, and *captained Oxford in a win* against Cambridge in 1874. He first practised at Lord's in 1862, and was still playing at Eton, in a second XI match, on the Fourth of June, 1930. A year before that, he had played at Lord's for the last time, for MCC v Indian Gymkhana.

The young Bill Bowes was also playing in this match, and has given us an account of it in *Express Deliveries* (one of the best books by a professional cricketer, and all his own work: it should be reprinted.) Bowes writes of how Harris, his captain, "dressed in the style of all the cricketers of his day. He had a white hat with MCC colours, a white shirt with starched collar and white bow tie, an old tie to hold up his narrow trousers, and a sweater which buttoned up the front".

Harris fielded in the gully, after leaving the final disposition of the field to Bowes, *but after a couple of balls* noticed that third man was directly behind him. He called *imperiously* "Bowes! You should never have two men in a line". Bowes said "*Sorry, sir, I thought* you would prefer that". "Ishall stop them", said Harris, "move the fieldsman to which side of me you prefer".

The name of Harris is still remembered with some wrath in Gloucestershire, because it *is part of the county tradition* that "'twas 'Arris tried to keep Walter out". So, at one time, he did. Harris was proud of his Kentish ancestry and allegiance, though as it happened he was born in Trinidad.

Hammond, though nurtured in Gloucestershire cricket, as it happened was born in Kent. He had already started playing for Gloucestershire when Harris, a stickler for qualifications, intervened. This held up the career of Hammond for two years, and I dare say had a considerable, and unhappy *influence on a complicated* character.

Harris was technically correct. He always was. But many great men have sensed that there are monents to turn a blind eye. And yet there weere occasions when cricket could be grateful for his clear sight. The most famous was the throwing *controversy in the 1880s and* '90s.

Throwing was a problem then as it was not to be again until the 1950s. Crossland and Nash, the Lancashire fast bowlers, were thought to have especially doubtful actions. Kent, on Harris's initiative, cancelled fixtures. Crossland and Nash were dropped, and fixtures were resumed.

Test cricket between England and Australia might *never have developed, at least* at the time and in the way it did, had it not been for *Harris. In 1879, he was* captain in Australia. There was a riot in a game against *New South Wales, after an* umpire's decision of which the Australians disapproved. The details do not,in the present context, much matter, and are in any case confused. Harris, who had to be escorted from the field by his team, was stern, unyielding, and sent home an account to the English press.

As a result of this, and other factors, including bad organisation, the Australian side which toured Britain in 1880 found it very difficult to get fixtures. No Tests had been arranged, and it seemed improbable that any would be played, but near the end of the season C. W. Alcock, the Surrey secretary, persuaded *Harris to lead a more or less* representative side against them at the Oval. Theis was a *generous* action on Harris's part. is presence (he was also responsible for raising the side) gave the stamp of authority to the occasion. Its centenary was duly celebrated in 1980.

For many years Harris was Treasurer of M.C.C., but *showed a talent* for negotiation, and reaching the nub of an argument, which approached that later achieved by H. S. Altham: though Harris could be as gruff as Altham was gracious. When Lord Harris died, Lord Hawke wrote in *Wisden* that "he was just one great Sahib". It is a phrase prompted no doubt by Harris's service as Governor in Bombay,but still makes us laugh a little today. Nevertheless it says much about the man, his attitudes, and *his* time.

Alan Gibson

Lord Harris: did not court popularity

RUGBY LEAGUE

Fulham breaking on wheel of misfortune

By Keith Macklin

Disaster follows disaster for Fulham. After last year's *euphoric entry into Rugby League* they have been dogged by injury and misfortune, the injury difficulty has become so acute that they have called off tonight's fixture at Bradford. Fulham struggled to raise a team for last Sunday's game with St *Helens;* more injuries were received in that match and yesterday Fulham were reduced to eight fit players.

Sunday's casualitie's were Crossley, Souto, Hoare, Wood and Herdman. Yesterday the team manager, *Harold Genders,* said: "We know we face a £2,000 maximum fine for calling off the march but things are so desparate that we have no alternative. We may even have to consider postponing Sunday's game with Featherstone."

Fulham also face a claim from Bradford Northern for expenses incurred in rearranging the fixture for tomorrow night.

The latest blow comes while Fulham are in serious danger of making an instant return to the second division. They need to win all their seven remaining games to have the remotest chance of staying up.

Leigh will play *their* new forward, Eric Chisnall, in the League game with York on Sunday. Chisnall, an experienced forward, was bought from St Helens for £15,000 as a powerful addition to their pack. Leigh are pursuing the championship leaders, Widnes.

Brian Case, the Warrington and Great Britain under-24 forward, has been transfer-listed at £80,000 by Warrington and is so *disgusted* at such a prohibitive price that he says he will never play again for the club.

MARATHON

London's bumper marathon crop

By Michael Coleman

The entry for the London Marathon on May 9 will be close to 18,000. Even allowing for a sizeable dropout, New York, with its 14,496 starters last October, will be *pushed* back to second place in popularity.

This is as it should be for it was London's first marathon in 1908 - the Olympic 'Dorando' race - that not only established the standard distance for the course (26 miles 385 yards) but also ignited interest in the marathon event, only doused by the First World War.

Nearly *100,000 people* requested entry forms for this year's London Marathon, sponsored for the second time by Gillette, and 60,000 forms came back to County Hall, each with a £4 or £5 entry fee, acording to status. The organizers raised the original 14,000 limit to 16,000 but about 17,500 names have already gone down to the Olivetti computer in *East Putney and* additions have yet to be made These include the 100 elite runners coming on invitation - 30 of these any organizer's arm.

The absence of start money will probably rule out the real *high fliers. Alberto Salazar,* whose winning time of 2hr 13min 13sec in New York was a world best will be present not as a competitor but as a salesman for Nike, the running *shoe* makers. However the course, from *Greenwich to Big Ben via The* Mall, is so fast that even Salazar's mark could be surpassed.

IN BRIEF

New event for veterans at Bisley

The National *Rifle Association* is this year instituting a veterans' aggregate competition for competitors over 65 at the annual Bisley rifle meeting, the association chairman, Sir Ronald Melville, told the annual meeting in London yesterday, our Rifle Shooting Correspondent writes.

The over 65s, who include a number of marksmen of international standard, will count their scores in the Bisley Grand Aggregate for the new trophy presented in memory of Henry Evan Price, a leading Bisley veteran who died last year.

At the other end of the scale the NRA *have taken* up a suggestion from Australian riflemen to institute an under-25 international match for teams of four.

Bisley is expecting one of its biggest overseas entries this year with teams from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Zimbabwe, Kenya and the United States. The Sultan of Oman's Land Forces *and the Arab Emirates are also* sending competitors.

Curling for Canada

Geneva, March 24.—Canada *will be the site of all three 1983* international curling championships in the spring, the International Curling Federation announced yesterday. The men's championship will open on April 11 in Regina, Saskatchewan, the *women's on April 3 (Moose Jaw,* Saskatchewan) and the juniors will meet in Medicine Hat, Alberta, on March 13.—AP.

Recruitment Opportunities

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£15,276 - £16,437

Bristol City Council employs 6,000 + people engaged in such diverse activities as running an Airport, Civil Engineering, Cleansing Services and Housing. The overall budget approaches £150m.

The impact of the Deputy Director of Personnel's job will be as strong as professional credibility will sustain in the provision of sound advice to line management on personnel policies and procedures, through to originating draft policy for Member consideration.

The Personnel Department is closely involved in the corporate management of the Authority. This vacancy, which occurs because of promotion, is in no way insulated from financial and other rigours of Local Authority Management.

For these reasons, appropriate professional qualifications are essential together with substantial experience in a well-developed personnel function, not necessarily in the public sector. Those aged below 30 are unlikely to have the depth of experience required.

An information package with an application form is available from:
The Director of Personnel Services, City of Bristol, The Council House, College Green, Bristol BS1 5TR. Telephone: (0272) 26031, ext. 247.

Bristol

The UK Overseas Aid Programme
Nursing and Health Services Adviser
£15,750-£18,335

This is a London-based appointment with the Administration's Health Advisory team. It involves advising on and monitoring the nursing content of development projects within the UK Aid Programme; advising on the nursing and midwifery aspects of the Technical Co-operation Training Programme; acting as consultant in developing countries (to overseas governments and the ODA) on the organisation of training and on health matters which cover the role of the nurse/midwife and paramedical staff in the community and in hospitals. The successful candidate will be an accomplished communicator both orally and in writing. Some overseas travel will involve an absence from the UK of approximately 12-14 weeks a year, divided into 3 or 4 tours.

Candidates (preferably aged between 35 and 55) must be SRNs with professional experience in a developing country and familiarity with the organisations and administration of UK nursing services. A degree in nursing or a related subject would be an advantage.

Starting salary within the quoted range according to qualifications and experience. Promotion prospects. The appointment is for a fixed period of 3 years which may be extended or made permanent.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 7 May 1982) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). *Please quote ref: G/5736/1.*

Overseas Development Administration

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Application forms and further particulars from the Chief Executive and Town Clerk, Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, London NW4 4BG, quoting ref. no. 5, or telephone 01-202 8282 (Ext. 439).

Closing date Friday, 16th April, 1982.

London Borough of Barnet

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Forms of application and details of the duties involved may be obtained from the Clerk to the Board, Dental Estimates Board, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN20 8AD.

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11

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Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Clerk, Devon and Cornwall Police Authority, County Hall, Exeter, telephone Exeter 77977.

Completed applications must be returned by 27th April, 1982.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS SERVICES

Industrial Relations Legal Information Bulletin

Industrial Relations Services is looking for additional writers to join its small team of specialist Research Officers, who contribute material to Industrial Relations Legal Information Bulletin, a fortnightly subscription journal.

Besides requiring a sound knowledge of labour legislation and case law, particularly that relating to individual employment rights, a general understanding of industrial relations is essential. The successful candidates must have the ability to analyse employment legislation in a way related to the problems experienced in industry, and not just from a legal point of view. They must also be able to write in a clear, accurate and concise form and under the pressure of publication deadlines.

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Applications setting out full details of how you match our requirements should reach us by 26 April at the latest, and be addressed to: The Editor, IRLIB, 67 Maygrove Road, London NW6 2EJ.

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Full particulars and application form from The Town Clerk, Corporation of London, P.O. Box 270, Guildhall, London EC2P 2EJ (telephone 01-606 3030 Extension 2426).

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2. RESEARCHER

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Work involves investigation on the USSR and Czechoslovakia, identifying and documenting political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty. Candidates should have a specialist knowledge of these countries, especially of their political and legal background. Fluent Russian essential.

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For a detailed job specification and application form send a large sae to the Personnel Department, Amnesty International, 10 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HF, or telephone 01-836 7788 ext. 289.

Closing date for the return of completed application forms: 28 April 1982.

Educational, Careers and Retraining

HORIZONS

The Times guide to careers training

Not quite so open any more

As study costs rise to near-prohibitive levels, Michel Syrett looks at measures taken by the Open University to maintain its remarkable 21 years record in the advancement of "distance learning"

It is a common charge that institutes of higher education remain ebony towers: narrow in their choice of student and slow to adapt their courses to the social and industrial needs of the community.

Such a charge against the Open University, as it enters its second decade, would be hard to justify. Since accepting its first adult undergraduates in 1971, the OU has amply fulfilled its charter to *provide university level and continuing education* for all adults (over 21) who are capable of it, regardless of age, status or learning qualifications.

A glance at the OU's 1981 figures, published in January, confirms this success. Women now comprise 47 per cent of the *graduates, the biggest single group* of applicants being those in the home. Blue and white collar workers constitute 15 per cent of new graduates, including 470 office staff — almost double the number of six years ago.

At the start of their studies a quarter of OU graduates had less than the minimum two A levels needed to enter a conventional university and 4 per cent had no formal educational qualifications. More than 60,000 undergraduates are studying with the Open University, with a further 25,000 doing continuous education courses.

The undergraduates' choice of study shows an increasing trend away from social sciences and towards scientific, technical and *mathematical courses, which now* account for nearly half the annual student intake. The course in computers and Computing is one of the most popular, and well over a third of the students following it are part-time or permanent teaching staff.

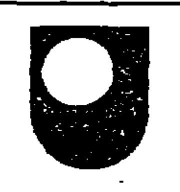
This trend towards courses more closely geared to the future needs of industry and commerce has gone hand in hand with the growing credibility of OU degrees among employers, and with their increasing willingness to sponsor or subsidize employees who want to study with the OU while they *continue in full-time work. Prominent* protagonists of OU support include IBM, ICI, British Steel, British Aerospace, Thames Television, Reckitt & Colman and the Armed Services.

The direct relevance of many OU courses to managerial and occupational careers has prompted several professional institutes to offer exemptions from parts of their examinations to OU students who have undertaken related *studies. These include The Insti*tute of Personnel Management, The Royal Town Planning Institute, the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, the British Computer Society, the Association of Certified Accountants, the Institute of Marketing, the Institute of Statisticians and the Institute of Mathematics and its applications.

The close association with commerce and industry is also reflected in the recent growth of the OU's continuing education programme. This accounts for a third of the university's students and produces short courses and study packs for people in professional and vocational work. It *also aims to meet the educational* needs of individuals in their personal and community roles.

Popular courses which the programme offers include *Microprocessors for Managers, Microprocessors for Engineers, The Effective Manager* and Computers and Computing.

As part of its aim to "promote the educational well-being of the community generally" the programme also produces a series of seven short courses to meet people's everyday needs. These include The First Years of Life, The Pre-School Child, Childhood 5-*10 and Energy in the Home and* Consumer Decisions. A course on Planning Retirement is under development.



The Open University

Recent education cuts have not left the university unscathed. There has been a running debate within the academic administration about how far investment in the programme of continuing education can be taken before it starts to affect the undergraduate programme, and this has led to a major drive towards making the courses pay for themselves.

More significant is the growing concern over the high fees which *the OU has to charge its students* in order to cover rising costs of administration. A single course costs £120, exclusive of registration fee (£40), the charge for the summer courses which supplement study at home (£75) and the cost of text books, course materials and incidental travel. As six credits are required for an ordinary degree and eight for an honours degree (successful completion of each course is worth one credit), *the total cost of a full* degree course is at least £1,400.

Rising fees have always been a particular problem for the Open University because of the low level of financial support available to its students. As part-students, OU undergraduates are not eligible for mandatory grants, although they often devote as much time to their studies as their full-time counterparts in conventional institutes of higher education.

*LEA support under the pro*vision for discretionary grants has never been generally available to help with course fees, and cutbacks in local authority spending have reduced such support still further. In 1974 only 20 per cent of local authorities gave any help with course fees, and this fell to less than 9 per cent in 1980.

Acquiring an Open University degree is thus becoming an expensive luxury, which runs contrary to the university's original philosophy of making higher education universally available. As *Professor Len Haynes, head of* chemistry and academic pro vice chancellor, explained: 'I couldn't be anything but concerned at the study costs to students, which is becoming very nearly prohibitive.

"If the fees rise any higher and you are in a lower income group, you could not hope to meet the cost of taking a full degree. The original idea was that the Open University was really supposed to be 'open'."

The hardship some students find in meeting study costs has prompted the university to introduce a series of measures to ease *the financial burden. Fees for each* course can now be paid in six separate instalments, and there is a financial assistance fund available to help students in extreme financial difficulty.

In addition, under a new scheme announced earlier this year, unemployed people who are currently studying with the university or who are offered a place during 1982 will have their tuition and summer school fees paid for them, *provided* that they have been unemployed for at least six weeks when fees are due.

Another dilemma facing the OU is the question mark hanging over the successful use of BBC radio and television broadcasts as a substitute for lectures available in conventional universities and poly*technics. In recent years, the BBC* has placed increasing pressure on the university to give up some of its more popular air space. With the introduction of breakfast television next year, this pressure can only increase.

The OU is well-placed to grapple with this problem, and it has already responded by developing the use of audio cassettes to supplement or replace radio broadcasts. These have proved very *popular with OU students* (the university has a sophisticated system of undergraduate course evaluation), and the audio-visual media group is considering the possibility of developing video recordings to replace television broadcasts. The group has also developed a new audio-visual system, *called Cyclops. This allows* pictures to be transmitted on an ordinary telephone line and thus permits television screens to be used as electronic blackboards by OU tutors operating from the 262 study centres spread throughout Britain.

As Dr John Horlock, the university's Vice-Chancellor, told a recent press conference: "When the Open University began teaching over a decade ago, there were many cynics who said that its students would lack the motivation and staying power to benefit from 'distance learning'. They were *wrong* and the 50,000 graduates who have qualified through the university since 1971 have proved them so."

Information on courses offered is available from the Open University, PO BOX 71, Milton Keynes MK7 6AG.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

". . . And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word."—St Luke 1: 38.

BIRTHS

BROWNE.—On Tuesday, March 23rd to Pam and Cavan at Heath Road Hospital, Ipswich—a daughter.

BURCHETT.—On 23rd March, 1982, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Sue and James—a son (Rupert James Hendry).

FEAR.—On Monday 22nd March at Cambridge to Anne (nee Wright) and John — a son (Alexander John), a brother for Duncan.

JONES.—On March 24h, 1982, to Rachel (nee Dakers) and Nicholas—a daughter.

MORRIS.—On 8th March, to Christine (nee Drake), and David—a daughter (Jennifer Rachel).

PENGILLEY.—On March 22nd at the West London Hospital, to Cleona (nee Askew) and Max—a daughter.

PINCIS. On 20th March to Hanna and Harvey, a son Junis Kasper.

RABAGLIATI.—On March 23rd at University College Hospital, to Jane and David—a son (Hugh).

TERRY.—On 19th March 1982 to Susan (nee Bryan) and John of Petersfield—a son (John Darcy Francis Malcolm) to be known as Darcy, a brother for Romny.

BIRTHDAYS

21 TODAY! Congratulations to Frances, G. and C. F.

HUGO VARNEY. Happy birthday today.

DEATHS

BARNETT.—On March 23rd, suddenly at Bolton Hall, Alnwick, Northumberland, Simon Edward (Sam) husband of Kathleen. Funeral private.

BEAUVOISIN.—On March 23, peacefully and after a long illness, in Cuddington Hospital, Banstead, Paul, dearly loved *husband of Madge, dear father* of Chris, Tony and Susie, and a loving grandpa. Requiem Mass on Friday, March 26 at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Heathcote Rd., Epsom, followed by burial. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to The National Deaf Children's Society, 45 Hereford Rd., London, W.2.

BOXALL.—On March 23rd, 1982, Major Henry Alleyne at Virginia House, Maidstone, aged 85. Father of David and fond grandfather of Nicholas, Timothy, Jeremy and Andrew. Funeral at Sutton Valence Church on Wednesday, March 31st, 1.15 p.m., followed by cremation. No flowers, but donations may be sent to Churchill Rehabilitation Centre, The Royal British Legion Village, Maidstone.

COOK, MARY STEPHANIE.—On March 16th, 1982, tragically in a road accident, daughter of Grace and John Cook. Funeral at Christ the King, Gordon's Square, WC1, 3.15, Friday, ...

[illegible]

ARMENIAN SOCIAL CLUB of Surrey. The formation of a new Armenian Social Club in Cobham, Surrey is hereby announced with the inaugural/first meeting scheduled for Friday 30th April 1982 at 7.30 pm, to be held at The American Community School, Portsmouth Road, Cobham. Families and individuals are invited to attend or make preliminary enquiries at Cobham 7251, between 9.00 am and 10.30 am (Mrs Emtzian).

THANKS TO THE HOLY SPIRIT, Our Lady of Lourdes and St Jude for great spiritual favour received.—B.M.H.

MANAGER/ESS or couple as Cook and manager/ess. See Domestic Situations Times today.

I, ANNE ZILLMAN, hereby give notice that I have as from Thursday, 25th March, 1982 renounced and abandoned the use of my former name and in lieu thereof have as from that date assumed the name of Anne Reymond.

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GORDON MILLER.—Denise is dead, long live Denise.—Sara.

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637 8432

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EC1/WC1. 3 room s/c furn. flat, Georgian Square close Univ., Fleet St., City. £95 p.w. 272 2276.

HOLLAND PK.—Elegant s/c flat for 1. £75 p.w. 727 5203

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PREMIER PROPERTIES, Estate Agents, 25 Rose Street, WC2. If you wish to sell, rent with management services your property. Ring 836 1722/3, 836 1832.

HAMPSTEAD/REGENTS PARK. Luxury furnished homes, £275 p.w. W.L.E. 01-459 7744.

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AMERICAN Executive seeks luxury flat or house up to £350 p.w. Usual fees required.—Phillips Kay & Lewis, 839 2245

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S.W.11. Prof. M/F over 25 to share mixed house. Own room. £20 p.w. 228 7191 eve.

CLAPHAM COMMON, 3rd prof person, 22+, own room, luxury maisonette with garden. £100 pcm exc. 622 7466 after 6.30 pm.

NORTH KENSINGTON. Prof male 25+ to share luxury house, own room, £135 pcm. 969 8852 eves.

SE22. Prof person 35+, own room, share house. £75 pcm. 693 6455 after 6.30.

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[illegible]

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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of meeting of creditors Pursuant to Section 293 Companies Act, 1948. Name of Company JAMES B. LANSING SOUND EUROPE Limited.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a meeting of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at 1 Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD on Wednesday, the 31st day of March, 1982, at 12.30 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of having a full statement of the position of the Company's affairs, together with a List of the Creditors of the Company and the estimated amount of their claims, laid before them, and for the purpose, if thought fit, of nominating a Liquidator and of appointing a Committee of Inspection.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that, for the purpose of voting, Secured Creditors must (unless they surrender their security), lodge at the Registered Office of the Company at 35 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5DB before the Meeting a Statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given, and the value at which it is assessed.

Dated this 9th day of March, 1982.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
GRAHAM DRANSFIELD,
(Alternate Director).

Notice of meeting of creditors Pursuant to Section 293 Companies Act, 1948. Name of Company HARSUB (U.K.) Limited.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a meeting of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at 1 Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD on Wednesday, the 31st day of March, 1982, at 12 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of having a full statement of the position of the Company's affairs, together with a List of the Creditors of the Company and the estimated amount of their claims, laid before them, and for the purpose, if thought fit, of nominating a Liquidator and of appointing a Committee of Inspection.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that, for the purpose of voting, Secured Creditors must (unless they surrender their security), lodge at the Registered Office of the Company at 35 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5PB, before the Meeting a Statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given, and the value at which it is assessed.

Dated this 9th day of March, 1982.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
GRAHAM DRANSFIELD,
(Alternate Director).

In the Matter of PHOTEC VIDEO Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act, 1948.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 28th day of April 1982 to send in ...

[illegible]

Re: F & R WALSH Limited (In Voluntary Liquidation) AND THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CREDITORS of the above named Company are required on or before 30th April, 1982 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their Debts or Claims to the undersigned, D. J. Buchler, F.C.A., of Bernard Phillips & Co., New Cavendish House, 18 Maltravers St., London, WC2R 3EJ, the Liquidator of the said Company, and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said Debts or Claims at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such Debts are proved.

Dated this 19th March 1982.
D. J. BUCHLER
Chartered Accountant

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Is it as easy as ABC?; 7.05 Minimum Cost Flows; 7.30 Carrot and Stirling Cycles; 9.05 Schools, Colleges: Brazil; 9.27 Its Your Choice; 9.48 Charles Dickens (3); 10.10 Animals of the Soil; 10.32 Don't Shoot the Ref; 11.05 Maths in-a-Box; 11.30 The Welsh Chartists; 11.55 On the Rocks: A matter of Latitude; 12.20 Interval. 12.30 News After Noon. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Music and chat from the foyer studio. 1.45 Mr Benn. 2.00 Closedown. 2.15 Schools, Colleges: Music Time (Coppelia) and, at 2.40, Television Club. 3.00 Closedown. 3.15: Holiday. Out-of-season breaks in Cyprus; ski-ing in Austria; and painting holidays in the Constable country (r). 3.55 Play School: Same as BBC 2 at 11.00 am. The story is The Recyclers, by Frances Kilbourne.

4.20 Mighty Mouse: cartoon. 4.25 Jackanory: Nerys Hughes reads from Bernie Doherty's How Green You Are!

4.40 Huckleberry Finn and his Friends: Final episode of the Mark Twain story of two Mississippi lads. Today: the cave is searched for hidden treasure.

5.05 John Craven's Newsround; 5.10 Blue Peter: Twelve-year-old violinist Jin Lee from Canton, China, plays Wieniawski's show piece caprice.

5.40 News: with Linda Alexander; 6.00 South East at Six; 6.25 Nationwide.

6.55 Tomorrow's World: A GP's approach to detecting faults in car engines. And a new way of healing open wounds. Also, making mopeds safer.

7.20 Top of the Pops: with Peter Powell.

8.00 The Kenny Everett Television Show: Comedy, music, and celebrity guests.

8.30 Love Story: Love is Old, Love is New Drama series begins. Jane Asher and James Fox are the childless couple on whose lives a teenage girl (Judy Holt) exerts a profound influence.

9.00 News: with John Simpson. And weather forecast.

9.25 Shoestring: The Dangerous Game Drama series starring Trevor Eve as the crime reporter working for a West Country radio station. Tonight's story has a Christmas setting and has to do with Santa Claus's supply of toys which come from an unorthodox source. The guest star is Michael Elphick, who played Private Schulz in the BBC TV serial last year (r).

10.20 Question Time: Robin Day's team tonight consists of John Alderson, Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall; Alan Clark, the Conservative MP for Plymouth, Sutton; Sheila Rothwell, a management expert; and Arthur Scargill, president-designate of the National Union of Mineworkers.

11.20 A Kick Up the Eighties: A second showing of this satirical series presented by Richard Stilgoe, Ron Bain, Miriam Margolyes, Roger Sloman, Tracey Ullman and Kevin Turvey (r).

11.45 News headlines. And weather forecast.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Crust and Mantle; 7.05 Turning it Round; 7.30 Isotopes in Geology. Open University programmes end at 7.55; There is a closedown that lasts until 11.00 when there is Play School. Today's story is Frances Kilbourne's The Recyclers. The presenters are Lola Young and Fred Harris; 11.25 Closedown. The next programme on BBC 2 is at 3.55. It is Bombay Superstar. The film was first seen in the Man Alive series, and it is a report on the thriving Indian film industry which emerges as something like a Far Eastern version of what Hollywood used to be like in its heyday. Jack Pizzey is the reporter (r).

4.45 Caught in Time: Amateur films of the 1920s and 1930s, including one on Cornwall (r).

5.05 Anthony Rooley: a performance of the Pavan for lute, by Ferrabosco.

5.10 Frank Lloyd Wright: Portrait of the domestic architect (r).

5.40 Laurel and Hardy: Thicker than Water* (1935).

6.00 All Creatures Great and Small: Skeldale House is threatened (r).

6.55 County Hall: local government serial; 7.20 News. With subtitles.

7.25 Hard Times: The Politics of Poverty. The work of free-lance agencies such as Child Poverty Action Group.

7.55 Take Me Back to New Orleans: Bob Langley visits the nursery of jazz.

8.30 Russell Harty: A tribute to 80-year-old composer Sir William Walton.

9.00 Call My Bluff: The players: Frank Muir, Sue Lawley, Jack Tinker, Arthur Marshall, Maureen Lipman, Roy Marsden. The referee: Robert Robinson.

9.30 Heart Transplant: First film in a series of seven about the much-publicized operations at Harefield Hospital. From the team who make the Forty Minutes documentaries (see Choice).

10.10 My Village, My Life: Portrait of the Indian village of Nanpur, 250 miles south of Calcutta. Life there is seen through the eyes of Prafulla Mohanti, the only person living in the village who was educated in the West. We learn about the astrologer, the barber, the priest, the widow, and other villagers.

11.00 Newsnight: Extensive coverage of the by-election at Glasgow Hillhead. It will include the live declaration of the result and first interviews with the winners and losers. Ends at 2.00 approximately.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Schools: Physics; 9.52 Carriers; 10.09 Easter customs and events; 10.26 Manchester and Los Angeles; 10.48 Biology: heather; 11.05 Basic Maths; 11.22 Programme about rubbish; 11.39 Middle English. The play is The Lift; 12.00 The Woodtis: Spring cleaning tale; 12.10 Get up and Go! with Beryl Reid. All about spaces; 12.30 The Sullivans: Australian family serial, set in the last war; 1.00 News from ITN: 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 Crown Court: the jury decides in the case of the journalist who interviewed a suspected IRA terrorist. With Denis Lawson; 2.00 After Noon Plus: Actor Steve Kanaly, of Dallas (he plays Ray Krebbs) talks about the long-running series shown on BBC1; 2.25, 3.05 and 3.35 at Doncaster; 3.45 The Cuckoo Waltz: Marital comedy series, starring Diane Keen and David Roper (r).

4.15 Dr Snuggles: Story of an inventor with Peter Ustinov's voice (r); 4.20 Little House on the Prairie: The fast-food store that threatens family life.

5.15 Emmerdale FArm: the countryside serial.

5.45 News from ITN. 6.00 Thames area news; 6.30 Thames Sport: the sporting scene, local and national. It includes an item on the new flat racing season.

7.00 Looks Familiar: Show business quiz in which a panel tell Denis Norden what they remember about entertainment in the 1930s and 1940s. They also dip into their own personal memory chest. With Janet Brown, Brian Rix and Jimmy Tarbuck.

7.30 Rising Damp: Comedy series, set in a lodging house run by the wily Rigsby (Leonard Rossiter). Tonight: he suspects that his basement lodger (Roger Brierley) is shamming when he complains of feeling ill. But is he? (r)

8.00 Falcon Crest: Drama series, set in California's vineyards, and starring Jane Wyman as the all-powerful Angie Channing.

9.00 Shelley: Comedy series about a lazy husband (Hywel Bennett). In Tonight's story, he complains of a bad back, though he has done nothing to earn one. He visits his GP and the medical section of the local library. Belinda Sinclair plays the sorely-tried wife.

9.30 TV Eye: Britain's TV future. Includes the results of a specially commissioned public opinion poll on whether the British viewer wants more TV channels. Television executives are interviewed about a 10-channel future.

10.30 News from ITN. And Thames area news headlines.

10.30 Danger UXB: Another episode in this wartime drama series about an Army bomb disposal unit. Starring Anthony Andrews (who was last week voted Best TV Actor of the Year), Judy Geeson and Iain Cuthbertson (r)

11.30 The Hillhead By-Election: Alastair Burnet and Peter Sissons handle the studio end of the live coverage, and Colin MacKay reports from Glasgow. Also in the studio: James Prior, Tony Benn, Dr David Owen and Donald Stewart (SNP). Ends at 12.30 am. 12.30 Close: Roy Plomley reads one of his favourite poems.

Jane Asher: BBC 1, 8.30 pm

CHOICE

● HEART TRANSPLANT (BBC 2, 9.30 pm) is Forty Minutes times seven. Tonight's film is the first of the series that will build up into an incredibly detailed five-hour picture of both Harefield Hospital and the representative selection of patients who have been there for a new heart. Judging by the launching film, producer Louise Panton has opted for a twin-headed approach to her subject. There is the totally absorbing (and, if you have a weak stomach, rather upsetting) surgical drama. And there is the human drama: the strained faces, the hands that stretch out to each other for comfort, the hope that creeps into eyes and then seeps away again. In tonight's film, one of two men will learn whether he is to get a new heart. Next week, one of them will die.

● TWO STOPS ON THE PICCADILLY LINE (Radio 4, 3.02) is clearly the work of a playwright who knows his football. More important, as Peter Simpkin demonstrated with a previous play called Magic, which was about the business end of football, he knows how to make the ramifications of the sport intelligible to non-enthusiasts. Which is not the same thing as saying that Mr Simpkin writes strong plays. Today's drama, which is about football violence and the shock waves it sends out from the terraces, is unconvincingly plotted. But its nightmarish vision of a Saturday afternoon world of mindless thugs who use inter-club rivalry as an excuse for beating each other up, has the ring of truth about it. Only a man who has seen such barbarity at close quarters could have written such a play. It will worry the parents of young football supporters.

● HILLHEAD BY-ELECTION: Good late-night viewing and listening can practically be guaranteed on BBC2 between 11 pm and 2 am, on ITV between 11.30 pm and 12.30, on Radio 4 from midnight, and on Radio 2 after 11 pm.

● Music highlights on radio: Peter Donohoe playing the Beethoven Piano Concerto No 1 with the BBC Scottish SO (Radio 4, 8 pm) and Elgar's Wand of Youth Suite No 2 (Radio 4, 9.10). On Radio 3 at 3.25, the BBC Northern SO play Brahms's Symphony No 2 and Mozart's Symphony No 36 (the Linz).

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.33 Yesterday in Parliament.
8.57 Weather and Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 A Good Night Out (new series) with Prof. Laurie Taylor.
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News.
10.02 Town Hall Rules OK? Nigel Rees finds out how local government works.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "Farewell to Blencathra" by David Bean.
11.00 News and Travel.
11.05 File on 4.
11.50 Enquire Within.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 Brain of Britain 1982 †
12.55 Weather and Travel.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News and Travel.
3.02 Play: "Two Stops On the Piccadilly Line" by Peter Simpkin.
4.00 Home Base. People and places that don't always make the national headlines.
4.15 Bookshelf.
4.45 Story Time: "The Last Resort" by Pamela Hansford Johnson (2).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather and Programme News.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 Any Answers?
6.54 It's a Bargain.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Time for Verse. The nature of poetry as sound.
7.30 Kaleidoscope.
8.00 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Concert: Delius, Beethoven.†
8.50 The other Tiger Bay. Story by Sam Mc Aughtry.
9.10 Concert (Part 2) Haydn, Elgar.†
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Gorky Park" by Martin Cruz Smith (9).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News: By-Election special.
12.23 By-Election special.

VHF as it above except as follows: 6.25-6.30 am Weather and Travel. 9.05 For Schools. 10.30-10.45 Listen with Mother. 11.00-12.00 For Schools. 2.00-3.00 pm For Schools. 11.00 Study on 4. 11.30-12.10 am Open University.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Bach, Brahms, Britten; records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer† Liszt; records
10.00 Haydn and Barber† String Quartet recital.
10.45 Music for Harp† Recital John Parry, Patrick Piggott.
11.20 BBC Concert Orchestra† Vieuxtemps, Dvorak.
1.00 News
1.05 Manchester Midday Concert† piano recital : Beethoven.
2.00 Jeanne d'arc au Bucher ("Joan of Arc at the Stake") Dramatic oratorio by Arthur Honegger.
3.25 Mozart and Brahms† BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra concert.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.† 7 00 Goethe s Poetry. The second of three selections translated and presented by Michael Hamburger.
7.30 London Circa 1765† Concert : J. C. Bach, Mozart
8.00 My Job Lord Carrington gives thelast of three lectures to mark the bicentenary of the Foreign and Commonwealth Offices
9.00 Late Fauret Piano recital
9.30 A Century of Choral Music† Recital by the BBC Singers. Part 1:Schumann, Kodaly, Brahms.
10.10 Interval Reading.
10.15 Recital, part 2 : Mendelssohn, Liszt, Bartok, Kodaly, Brahms.
11.00 News.
Scarlatti† on record.

VHF Only — Open University: 5 55 am Democracy and Oligarchy in Athens 6.15 The Digital Computer 6.35-6.55 What is a Function? 11.20 pm The Acceptance of continental I rift 11.40 Structural Analysis 12.00 Schooling and Society 12.20 am Devotional Hinduism 12.40-1 00 Law?.

Lord Carrington: My Job (Radio 3, 8.00 pm)

Radio 2

5.00am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Gloria Hunniford.† 2.00pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News d Sport.† 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Country Club.† 9.00 Alan Dell.† 10.00 The News Huddlines. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. 11.00 Brian Matthew from midnight.† 2.00-5.00am You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00pm Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright.5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 The Record Producers. 8.00 David Jenson. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 midnight CLose. VHF Radios 1 and 2: 5.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648 kHz (463m) at the following times GMT: 6 00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Marching and Waltzing. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Opera Gallery. 8.30 John Peel. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 Rock Salad. 10.15 The Withered Arm. 10.30 My Word! 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain 11.15 A Pattern of Faith. 11.30 Assignment. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 1.30 Network UK 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Assignment. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News 5.09 Meridian. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary 9.15 Ulster Newsletter. 9.20 In the Meantime. 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Goethe. 1.00 The Withered Arm. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.50 In the Meantime. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Opera Gallery. 2.30 Musician at Large. 3.00 World News. 3.09 New about Britain 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The Word Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94 9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

BBC CYMRU/WALES 10.10-10.32am I Ysgolion: Hwnt Ac Yma Tynnu Llun 12.57-1.00pm News 2.15-2.40 I Ysgolion: Ffenestri Y Llwybr Natur 6.00-6.25 Wales Today 6.55-7.20 Heddiw 11.45-11.47 News 11.47-12.10am The Computer Programme 12.10 News SCOTLAND 12.55-1.00pm The Scottish News 3.00-3.30 The Afternoon Show 3.30-3.55 Closedown 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland 8.30-9.00 Current Account 11.45 News Headlines NORTHERN IRELAND 11.30-11.35am For Schools: Ulster in Focus 12.57-1.00pm Northern Ireland News 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six 11.45 News Headlines ENGLAND 6.00-6.25pm Regional Magazines 11.50 Close

HTV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Square One. 4.45 Flying Kiwi. 5.10 Jobline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 News. 6.30 Cuckoo Waltz. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28 News. 10.30 Scene '82. 11.00-11.30 Survival. 12.30 am Closedown.

BORDER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Golfing Greats: Severiano Ballesteros. 11.10 Parents and Teenagers. 11.27-11.30 News. 12.30 am Closedown.

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.10-2.25 Not for Women Only. 4.20 Palmerston. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 10.30 Basketball. 11.00-11.30 Parents and Teenagers. 12.30am Living Word.

HTV CYMRU / WALES

As HTV West except: 11.22 am-11.37 Am Gymru. 12.00-12.10 pm Mwstl. 4.15 Fanfare for Young Musicians. 4.45 Ser. 5.10-5.20 Captain Nemo. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Sports Arena. 10.30-11.30 All Kinds of Everything.

GRAMPIAN

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Flying Kiwi. 4.50-5.15 Sport Billy. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30 Police News. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 It's George! 10.30 Bizarre. 11.00-11.30 Parents and Teenagers. 12.30 am News. 12.35 Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As Thames Except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Unaccustomed As I Am. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Bodyline. 6.30 Now You See It. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Preview: Spaver Connection. 11.00-11.30 Parents and Teenagers. 12.30am Late Call. 12.35 Closedown.

ULSTER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 4.20 New Fred and Barney Show. 4.45 Schools Challenge. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.25 Police Six. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Bizarre. 11.00 Parents and Teenagers. 11.30 News at Bedtime, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Sport Billy. 4.45-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Other Boat Race : Lincoln to Boston race. 11.00-11.30 Parents and Teenagers. 12.30am Closedown.

TSW

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15 Gus Honeybuns. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30 Tele Views. 6.40 On the Water. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 10.32 News. 10.35 Controversy. 11.05-11.30 Parents and Teenagers. 12.30 am Postscript. 12.36 Closedown.

TVS

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.25 Not for Women Only. 3.45-4.15 Square One. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Enterprise: Soap Industry. 11.00-11.30 Parents and Teenagers. 12.30 Company. Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: 9.20am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20-1.30 News. 4.20 Lone Ranger. 4.50-5.45 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 News. 10.32 Job Slot Extra. 10.35 Bizarre. 11.05 Come In. 11.40 Hillhead By-Election. 12.30am Three Million and Rising. 12.35 Close Down.

GRANADA

as Thames except: 1.20pm Granada Reports. 1.55-2.25 Crown Court. 4.20 Here's Boomer. 4.50-5.45 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Lou Grant. 11.30 What the Papers Say. 11.45 Hillhead By-election. 12.30am Close Down.

CENTRAL

As Thames except: 12.30pm-100 Young Doctor. 1.20-1.30 News. 4.20 Sport Billy. 4.45 Jason of Star Command. 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00 crossroads. 6.25 News. 7.00-8.00 Emmerdale Farm. 9.00 Shelly. 10.00 News at Ten. 10.30 Venture. 11.00 Portrait of a Legend : Roy Orbisin. 11.30 News. 11.35 Hillhead By-election. 12.30am Closedown.

CHANNEL

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.15 Ladies First. 6.40 On the Water. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 10.28 News. 10.34 Better Read. 11.05 Parents and Teenagers. 11.30 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO ★ BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

Chancery Division — Law Report March 25 1982 — Court of Appeal

Tax avoidance plan succeeds

Coates (Inspector of Taxes) v Arndale Properties Ltd

Before Mr Justice Goulding
[Judgment delivered March 24]

A simple tax avoidance scheme designed around the group relief provisions in the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 and the Finance Act 1965 to ensure that a loss of £2,213,822 from a land development project became a trading loss for purposes of computing profits for corporation tax purposes achieved its object.

Although the only motive of those participating in the scheme was the securing of a tax advantage, the recent decisions in *W. T. Ramsay v Inland Revenue Commissioners* (*The Times* March 13, 1981; [1981] 2 WLR 449) and *Inland Revenue Commissioners v Burmah Oil Co Ltd* (*The Times* December 9, 1981), where the House of Lords had stated far-reaching principles to nullify tax avoidance schemes, did not apply to prevent the relevant transaction from being a trading transaction from which a tax benefit ensued.

Mr Justice Goulding so held delivering a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by the Crown from a decision of the St James's, Westminster, general commissioners discharging an assessment to corporation tax on the taxpayers, Arndale Properties Ltd, in a sum of £28,072 for the year ending March 31, 1974.

He granted the Crown liberty to apply to appeal direct to the House of Lords.

Mr John Mummery for the Crown; Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Michael Flesch for the taxpayers.

MR JUSTICE GOULDING said that initially he had thought that the question for determination was, like the facts, short and simple. Because of a number of decisions by the House of Lords he was now of the opinion that it was a difficult one.

The Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 contained special provisions relating to groups of companies. The taxpayers were a member of the same group as Sovereign Property Investments (Newport) Ltd (SPI) and The Arndale Property Trust Ltd (APT). SPI were a property development company; the taxpayers were a property dealing company and APT were an investment company.

SPI acquired and developed the Arndale Centre, Newport, at a cost of £5,313,822. By March 1973 the market value of that property had fallen to only £3,100,000. On March 30, 1973, SPI assigned the property to the taxpayers for £3,090,000 and on the same day the taxpayers assigned it to APT for £3,100,000.

It was not disputed that the companies' motive for engaging in the transaction, instead of a direct assignment from SPI to APT, was the expectation that favourable tax consequences would ensue.

By section 273(1) of the 1970 Act the property disposed of by SPI to the taxpayers, being members of the same group, was treated for tax purposes as acquired by the taxpayers for such a consideration as would secure neither a gain nor a loss to SPI, that is, £5,313,822.

By section 274(1) if the taxpayers acquired the property as trading stock, they were to be treated for the purposes of paragraph 1 of Schedule 7 to the Finance Act 1965, as having acquired it otherwise than as trading stock and immediately appropriated it as a trading stock.

Under paragraph 1 of Schedule 7, companies making such an appropriation were generally treated for the purposes of computing taxable gains as having thereby disposed of the appropriated asset by selling it for its market value; however a company could instead elect that in computing their trading profit for tax purposes such market value should be increased by the amount of the loss which would have accrued to them had they at the time of appropriation sold the asset for such market value. The taxpayers had made such an election and thus claimed to have made an allowable loss on the sale to APT.

The Crown contended that the transaction did not produce its intended result for tax purposes because the taxpayers did not acquire the property from SPI as trading stock and therefore the provisions of section 274(1) never became applicable.

Viewed in isolation from its motive and its consequences, the transaction was of a kind agreeable to the taxpayers' trade. However, the transaction would never have been undertaken for commercial purposes.

There was thus much force in the contention that the property was not bought by the taxpayers as trading stock of a dealer in property, but as a piece of apparatus, a counter, with which a loss might be established within the group for tax purposes.

In broad terms the question of law was: if a property dealer carried out operations which in form and quality were within the ordinary scope of his trade could they be held to be trading operations if they were carried out from an extraneous motive, such as reducing liability to tax and but for that motive would not have been undertaken?

The Crown had invited his Lordship to be guided by the recent decisions of the House of Lords in *Ramsay* and in *Burmah* where a new approach was ennunciated to nullify tax avoidance schemes.

However, there were earlier decisions of the House of Lords, known as the dividend stripping cases, which gave more specific guidance in relation to the facts now in question.

In *Griffiths v J. P. Harrison (Watford) Ltd* ([1963] AC1) a share-dealing company bought the share capital of another company with a view to obtaining payment of a large dividend and so establishing a trading loss by the consequential diminution in value of the shares.

The House of Lords held that to be a *trading transaction* notwithstanding that it had been embarked upon for solely fiscal purposes. At p26 Lord Guest said that the question to be asked was not *quo animo* was the transaction *entered* into, but what in fact was done by the company. He went on to say that that transaction was just the ordinary commercial transaction of a dealer in shares.

There was nothing in the subsequent decisions of the Lords in *Finsbury Securities Ltd v Inland Revenue Commissioners* ([1966] 1 WLR 1402), *Lupton v F. A. & A. B. Ltd* ([1972] AC 634) and *Thompson v Gurneville Securities Ltd* ([1972] AC 661) to doubt the *Harrison* case. Within the limits indicated by the majority of their Lordships in the *Lupton* case, the principle still prevailed. Nor was there anything in the *Ramsay* and *Burmah* cases that indicated otherwise: indeed Lord Diplock in *Burmah* expressly said that his new approach did not necessitate overruling any earlier decisions of the House of Lords.

On that basis the appeal failed. The transaction consisted of a straightforward purchase and sale. It was not so affected and inspired by fiscal consideration that its shape and character were no longer that of a trading transaction.

The transaction could be described as dealings which were part of the trade of dealing in property, albeit intended to secure a fiscal advantage, rather *than as a mere device* to secure a fiscal advantage, albeit given the trappings normally associated with a dealing in property within the trade.

The commissioners had not *erred in law in finding that the* transaction was one in the course of the taxpayers' trade and were right to discharge the assessment on the footing that the property was acquired by the taxpayers as trading stock.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Speechly Bircham.

£8,000 costs bill no severe hardship to LTE

Kelly v London Transport Executive

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Ackner and Lord Justice O'Conner.
[Judgment delivered March 22]

London Transport Executive, which was substantially successful in an action brought against it by a legally aided plaintiff, would not suffer "severe financial hardship," in the meaning of section 13(3) (b) of the Legal Aid Act 1974, by reason of having to bear its own costs of the action, and accordingly was not entitled to an order for the payment of those costs out of the legal aid fund.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the executive from Mr Justice Caulfield who refused the executive's application for payment from *the legal aid fund* of its costs, estimated at £8,000, of the personal injury action brought against it by Mr Michael Kelly, of Ealing, London.

Section 13 of the 1974 Act *provides*: "(1) Where a party receives legal aid in connexion with any proceedings between him and a party not receiving legal aid...and those proceedings are finally decided in favour of the unassisted party, the court...may...make an order for the payment to the unassisted party, out of the legal aid fund of the whole or any part of the costs incurred by him in those proceedings...

"(3)...no order shall be made under this section in respect of costs incurred in a court of first instance...unless...(b) the court is satisfied that the *unassisted party will suffer* severe financial hardship unless the order is made..."

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr Christopher Carling for the executive; Mr Duncan Matheson *and Mr Nigel Pitt for No 14* (London West) Legal Aid Area.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Mr Kelly started working for London Transport in October 1974. The following day he received a trivial injury when he was cut on the head.

In March 1975 he stopped working and had never worked since. He lived on social security benefits. He complained of all sorts of ills, including eye trouble, deafness and depression, all attributed to the trivial accident in 1974.

He went to solicitors and got legal aid. Later the certificate was extended to cover medical and other experts. Mr Kelly was seen by a veritable army of medical and psychiatric specialists.

One produced a report which was favourable to Mr Kelly's claim. It was made in 1979, but at the request of Mr Kelly's solicitors the date on it was changed to 1980. The other reports were in general unfavourable.

Then on the strength of an 18-page counsel's opinion, the legal aid certificate was extended to *cover the trial, with two counsel* for Mr Kelly. Armed with that, the lawyers pursued the claim mercilessly.

The London Transport Executive got medical reports also. Although they sent their reports to Mr Kelly's solicitors early in 1980, the solicitors did not reciprocate until just before the trial in October 1980. Meanwhile in July 1980, the executive, which in the event admitted liability, paid £750 into court to get rid of the claim.

Apparently on the advice of counsel, the payment in was not accepted. In September 1980, the executive, which had still not received *the plaintiff's medical* reports, made a further offer of £4,000 in global settlement of damages and costs.

That was not accepted either, no doubt also on the advice of the solicitors and counsel. The claim was still pursued, despite the dubious value of such of the plaintiff's medical reports as were eventually relied on.

Mr Kelly expected to get damages of many thousands of pounds, but it turned out that his claims were completely bogus. The judge accepted the evidence of the executive's doctors, and rejected that of Mr Kelly and of the specialist whose report had been doctored.

The judge found that the eye injury had been caused in a drunken brawl back in 1971. The other ailments were the result of chronic alcoholism over many years. Mr Kelly was awarded £75, which immediately went to the legal aid fund.

So at the end of the day Mr *Kelly got nothing. His solicitors* no doubt expected all their costs to be paid out of the legal aid fund, while London Transport would be left to bear its own costs. The executive now sought to recover those costs, as from the date of the payment of £750, from the legal aid fund, under section 13 of the 1974 Act.

London Transport had been put to great trouble and expense in contesting a wholly bogus claim brought on legal aid. It was a disgrace to the adminstration of law.

The legal aid regulations did contain provisions designed to ensure that the system was not abused. For example, anyone who got to know of an abuse could report the matter to the *legal aid* area committee, and the solicitors could be discharged.

It was said that the executive should have done that. That might have made a difference, but his Lordship was satisfied that *the area committee dealt* with the matter conscientiously and as best they could, relying on the solicitors' and counsel's advice. There was not much, if any, blame on the committee; the great majority of blame attached to Mr Kelly's solicitors and counsel.

A claimant under section 13 had to satisy six conditions: see *Hanning v Maitland* ([1970] 1 QB 580). Most were satisfied in the present case. In particular, it was *unquestionably just and equitable* that the executive's costs should be paid out of public funds, as required by section 13(2). In any event, that was not the issue in the appeal. There were two *matters that were in issue.*

First, had the proceedings been "finally decided" in the executive's favour, as section 13(1) required? It was said that since Mr Kelly got *judgment* for £75, there was a final decision in his favour.

It was necessary to see if the unassisted party had substantially succeeded, as in *General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation Ltd v Foster* ([1973]QB 50). In view of the executive's payment into court of £750, and later offer of £4,000, set against the meagre sum awarded to Mr Kelly the *executive had substantially* succeeded.

Second, would London Transport suffer "severe financial hardship" if the order were not made: see section 13(3)(b)? Mr Matheson submitted that a large public corporation could not in principle suffer "hardship" at all since that word denoted human feelings, which were not appropriate to a public body.

A number of cases had decided that a small private company was capable of suffering hardship: see *R. & T. Thew Ltd v Reeves* (*The Times*, May 17, 1981; [1981] 3 WLR 190) and *Kenny v Taylor* (unreported, July 8, 1981, Mr Justice Dillon). In *Miller v Littner* (unreported, February 1, 1979) Mr Justice Oliver held that an estate being administered could suffer hardship.

But London Transport was a huge corporation. Although it was under a statutory duty to meet its expenditure if it could, in 1980 it had a deficit of about £175m, which had to be made up by a subsidy from the Greater London Council.

His Lordship was very tempted to accept the invitation to take each word separately, and to hold that there was hardship because of the all the trouble the executive had been put to, that there was financial loss, which was obvious, and that £8,000 was a *severe loss.*

But the phrase "severe financial hardship" had to be read as a whole. No one could say that having to bear the bill of £8,000 would make any difference to London Transport's affairs. Accordingly they could not recover.

There was however another remedy open to them. In *Kyle v Mason* (*The Times*, July 2, 1963), Lord Justice Ormerod ordered solicitors to pay costs themselves because they had not carried out their duties under the legal aid legislation. And in *Thew* (*The Times*, June 29, 1981; [1981] 3 WLR 190, 217) the court ordered the assisted party's solicitors to attend before the court for it to be considered *whether* they should pay costs personally.

Solicitors and counsel acting for a legally aided party had a duty not only to their client, but *also to the other party if he was* not legally assisted. They should not use legal aid to extort unreasonable concessions from the other side.

If a reasonable offer of payment into court was made, they should accept it. They should not waste money by asking unreasonably for endless medical reports. *Medical* reports should not be settled by the lawyers.

The duty lay not only on the solicitors, but on counsel as well. If either failed in that duty, they could be called to account and made to pay costs of the *other* side. The immunity conferred by *Rondel v Worsley* ([1969] 1 AC 191) would not apply in such a case.

LORD JUSTICE ACKNER, agreeing on the issues arising under section 13, said that Mr Kelly would have been surprised to hear that he had succeeded in his claim. There was no doubt that the proceedings had been finally decided in London Transport's favour.

The question of severe financial hardship was one of fact and *degree in each case. His Lordship* could see no reason for differentiating between a private company, which on the authorities could suffer severe financial hardship, and a public one.

It was essential always to ascertain what were the likely consequences to the unassisted party of his costs not being paid out of the legal aid fund. If a small company *would have to go* into liquidation as a result, that was severe financial hardship. If it would merely have to increase its overdraft, it would not.

London Transport might have to apply to the GLC for further funds, but any consequential rise in rates would be minimal.

Lord Justice O'Connor agreed.

After hearing further submissions, the court ordered Mr Kelly's solicitors to attend before the court to consider whether they should pay the executive's costs personally.

Solicitors: Mr V. J. Moorfoot; Area Secretary, No 14 (London West) Legal Aid Area.

Pegging is 'operation'

Malvern Hills District Council v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another

An inspector's conclusion that the marking out with pegs of the line of part of a *proposed estate* road amounted to an "operation in the course of laying out... part of a road" as defined in section 43(1) (d) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 was upheld by Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice Watkins, Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls dissenting, in reserved judgments in the Court of Appeal on March 24.

An appeal by the Malvern Hills Distict Council from the order of Sir Douglas Frank, Q.C., sitting *as a deputy* High Court judge on December 22, 1981, upholding the secretary of state's decision to quash an enforcement notice relating to the proposed road for a planned new housing estate at the village of Cradley was dismissed

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

No duty to add letters

Wates Ltd v Greater London Council

An arbitrator was not under a duty to justify his findings by annexing documents for the consideration of the court hearing the special case, save where there was a question whether there was evidence to support a finding, since that would be to invite the court to reopen issues of fact, Mr Justice Anthony Lincoln said in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division on March 18.

HIS LORDSHIP said the GLC moved to set aside or remit an award on the ground that the arbitrator failed to annex five letters. It was not suggested that he failed to consider them.

The proper function of the arbitrator was to summarise facts and effects of correspondence. The court would not be concerned with evidence but only with findings of fact.

The arbitrator was not in *breach of his duty and did not* misdirect himself and the motion would be refused.

GLC taken to law again as Tories challenge budget

By David Walker

The Greater London Council's defeat over cheap fares was yesterday invoked in court for the first time as an important legal precedent when a Conservative-controlled London borough sought to have the GLC's budget for 1982-83 declared illegal.

Lawyers for the borough of Kensington and Chelsea asked the divisional court to nullify the Labour GLC's rate precept. In making it the GLC had neglected its "fiduciary duty" to ratepayers—a key phrase in the law lords' verdict that the GLC had acted unlawfully last autumn in cutting fares.

Mr Anthony Scrivener QC, for Kensington, told Mr Justice McNeill that the precept issued by the GLC earlier this month was illegal on two grounds. It contained an element for subsidy of council house rents that unfairly discriminated between the boroughs. Another element provided "unreasonably" for £30m to add to the GLC's balances.

Mr Scrivener made extensive references to the cheap fares case brought against the GLC by the borough of Bromley. Echoing the case made by Bromley's lawyers, he said: "The bases of many GLC decisions are very difficult to determine."

If Kensington's challenge to the 1982-83 precept is upheld the finances of London government could be thrown into turmoil. The GLC might have to withdraw its rate demands to the boroughs, which would have to consider repaying substantial sums to ratepayers. Rates for the new financial year fall due on April 1.

The borough's case hinged on the complicated issue of the rent of housing that has been transferred from the GLC to the boroughs. Kensington argued that the GLC's budget allowed for different arrangements for this housing for the various boroughs.

Mr Scrivener said GLC politicians and officials had missed that point "despite a plethora of advice from learned lawyers".

According to the statutory arrangements for housing formerly owned by the GLC, the boroughs were compensated for the difference between their spending on this housing and the rents they received.

The GLC, in making these calculations, had ignored the Government's advice to raise all council house rents by £2.50 in 1982-83. It had encouraged some boroughs to raise the rent of former GLC housing by only £1 a week, Mr Scrivener argued.

High-rent boroughs such as Kensington had been discriminated against; their ratepayers were being asked to subsidize different arrangements being applied by the GLC to other boroughs.

The hearing continued today.

Brezhnev plea to China

Continued from page 1
the two countries were joined by strong economic and cultural ties

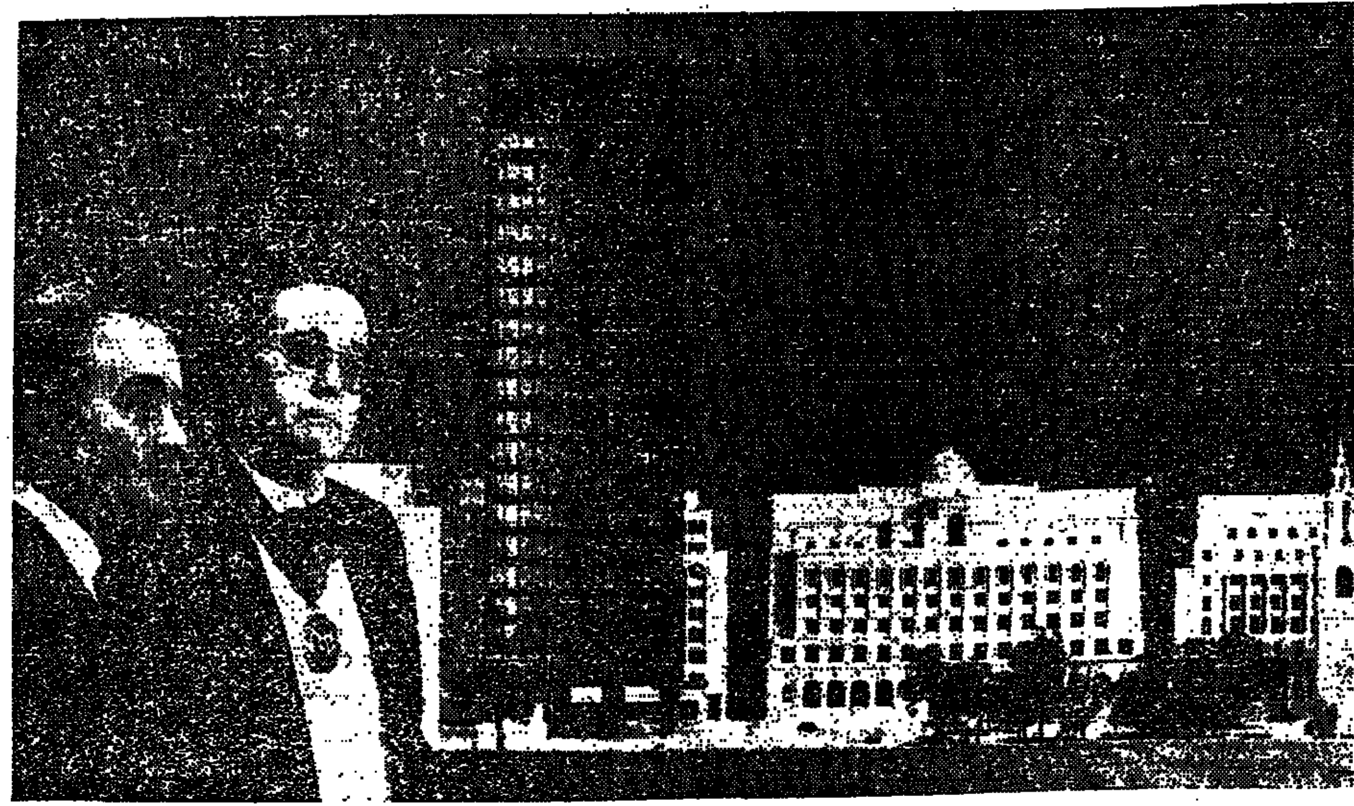
The Soviet proposals for better relations with its Eastern neighbours come when the Russians feel especially threatened by the tough line the United States is taking. They have long been worried by a sense of encirclement by enemies, and as Nato prepares to deploy new missiles on the Soviet Union's western flank, Moscow believes it increasingly urgent to lessen tension in the East.

For the past month the Russians have been putting out discreet feelers to the Chinese, calling on them to renew the border talks and declaring that Moscow's door was open for better relations.

☐ Peking: China is not likely to take up in the immediate future the offer made by Mr Brezhnev. There was no official Chinese reaction to the appeal, but diplomatic sources said that Soviet proposals made in the past few months about negotiations on frontier disputes had led China to say it did not envisage an immediate resumption of the talks. AFP

Leading article, page 13

Suresh Kavadia



Mansion House site remodelled

Mr Owen Luder (above right), president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, yesterday inspected a model of the proposed Mansion House Square development, in the City of London, with the would-be developer, Mr Peter Palumbo (John Young writes). The photograph was taken shortly before the institute's council met to discuss the scheme, a highly unusual step and one that reflects the intense controversy that it has caused. The debate concerns not only the radical change in the historic street pattern and the loss of several listed buildings that the redevelopment would entail, but also the architectural quality of its dominant feature, a tower block designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, one of the most influential architects of this century and a "high priest" of the modernist movement. Critics of the building maintain that, by the time it was built, it would be 30 years out of date.

US ready for talks on Central America

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 24

An important new initiative to find ways of ending the bloodshed and tension in Central America is expected to get under way soon after Sunday's elections in El Salvador.

Three developments in the last 24 hours would seem to indicate that the United States, with Mexico's assistance, is actively seeking a negotiated settlement, to prevent the United States from being sucked into deeper military and political involvement.

These were:

1 A front-page report in *The New York Times* from Managua, saying that the United States and Nicaragua have agreed to resume direct negotiations to settle their numerous differences.

2 A suggestion by Mr Deane Hinton, the American Ambassador in El Salvador, that the winners of Sunday's elections should negotiate with the left-wing rebels to put an end to the bloodshed.

3 An announcement by the State Department that the Foreign Ministers of El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica (which recently formed the Central American Democratic Community) are to meet in Washington tomorrow.

The *New York Times* report, quoting diplomatic sources, said that the proposal for new United States-Nicaragua talks had been made by Señor Jorge Castañeda, the Mexican Foreign Minister, who had four hours of talks in Managua yesterday. The report said that the talks might be held next week in Mexico City.

The State Department declined to confirm or deny the report. However, the official spokesman made it clear that the United States would not be averse to such talks.

Nicaragua has already indicated its willingness to hold further talks with the United States, but the Americans have insisted on awaiting the results of the Salvadorean elections.

If the United States-Nicaragua meeting takes place it will be the first concrete result of the regional peace initiative begun by President López Portillo of Mexico during a visit to Managua.

Mr Hinton's suggestion that the new constituent assembly in El Salvador should consider negotiations with the insurgents was regarded by observers as a major shift in American policy.

Guatemala coup, page 8

Painting is 'genuine Watteau'

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A painting that had lurked in an English private collection for more than 200 years with doubts over its attribution, was announced to be a genuine work by Jean-Antoine Watteau by the Stadtelsches Kunstinstitut in Frankfurt yesterday. It has just spent DM 3m (£700,000) to buy it.

The painting depicts elegant ladies and gentlemen of the early eighteenth century "embarking for the Isle of Cythera" in a boat navigated by naked *putti*. It came up for sale at Christie's in December, *cautiously catalogued as "attributed to Jean-Antoine Watteau"*, rather than a genuine article. Christie's had only estimated its value at £30,000 to £40,000.

Christie's reaffirmed yesterday that when the painting was with them it had been very carefully studied and there were no grounds for a more efinite attribution.

The painting is thought to have been in the collection of one Thomas Walker, a rich eighteenth century collector. It descended by various bequests to Major-General E. H. Goulburn.

Frank Johnson in Hillhead

Thank you, Mr Jenkins, and a nodal goodbye

It has been, by all accounts, a joyous campaign and it is no disservice to the other principal candidates to say that this is because of the presence of Mr Roy Jenkins.

Mr Malone, the Tory, some 30 years Mr Jenkins's junior, manifestly has more knowledge of "the issues", including the national ones, than Mr Jenkins, with weary decades of issues stretching back behind him, can nowadays muster.

For this is Jenkins, the last
For this is Jenkins, the last finished man is known to us all and we judge him by what he would *be* in office rather than what he would do, which is in the case of any politician largely unknowable in any case. Nothing would go exceptionally right under Mr Jenkins's rule. But nothing would go exceptionally wrong, either, and it would all be done with some aplomb.

The Hillhead voters sense this, which is why, though his opponents have convincingly demonstrated over the past week that his attitude on the issues is indistinct, his rise in the opinion polls has gathered momentum.

Perhaps the voters are tired of issues. And politicians are to be enjoyed for other reasons. There is what might be called, for want of a better term, their carry on; the props, gestures and mild absurdities which make them stand out from lesser, greyer, figures.

Traditional poll rally of cliches

When Mr Jenkins is carrying on, the tone is raised, the atmosphere is sweeter. That is why this by-election, whether he wins or loses it, has been a success.

Yesterday was the traditional eve of poll rally of cliches, the day when all candidates detect a "late swing", or "scent victory" or are "quietly confident".

Such phrases are of course quite separate from the Royisms which give us so much pleasure. But we none the less like to hear them from Mr Jenkins's cultured tones and distinguished, quivering jowls because from such a source they sound as new. The interest of his final press conference, then, lay in seeing how many we could coax from him.

As soon as he arrived, we knew he was going to carry on. "My reaction in shopping centres, in what I would regard as nodal areas of the constituency, has been very striking", he drawled. Nodal areas? So he could still produce a new Royism on the last day.

Real, late swing detected

Later research revealed that they were "great circles of the celestial sphere, especially the orbit of a planet or the moon." There were few of those in Hillhead, so we opted for the secondary meaning; a meeting place of roads, unless he meant, with that distinctive voice of his, noodle areas, a reference to Hillhead's hitherto unnoticed Chinatown. It did not really matter.

"There is every sign of a substantial movement of opinion which has gone on and is going on, a real late swing."

"At Crosby, you said you scented victory", asked a colleague from the BBC, choosing the cliche that would give Mr Jenkins almost the full set. "At Crosby, I said that, did I? Yes, I've been scenting victory for some time in this campaign", he replied.

"We're not cocky, but we're quietly confident", he added, achieving the full set. Whereupon, Mr Jenkins ended the press conference which could have been the last of his electoral career or the herald to that career's apotheosis.

But the memory which lingers most of his campaign was his reply to a persistent young man in a menacing leather jacket who had upbraided him in a nodal area about leaving the Labour Party. "I believe in a fair society, which we will govern far more effectively than an extremist Marxist Labour Party, and goodbye." That was Mr Roy Jenkins's election address to the voters of Hillhead.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit Home Office, to mark their bicentenary, 2.30; later they give reception at Buckingham Palace for winners of Queen's Awards for Export and Technology, 6; the Prince of Wales is also present.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Twelfth Man of Lord's *Taverners*, *presents* County Championship Trophy, Buckingham Palace, 10; as Chairman of Royal Society of Arts Committee for the Environment, chairs committee meeting, Buckingham Palace, 11; at 4 unveils Defenders' Memorial, Westminster Abbey; as Colonel-in-Chief of the Army and Cadet Force, dines with Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteers Reserve Association, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, 8.

Princess Margaret opens extensions at Velindre Hospital, Cardiff, 12; visits University Hospital of Wales, 2.20.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, visits Greater Manchester Police Training School, Sedgley Park, Prestwich, 12; visits East Lancashire Home for Disabled Ex-Servicemen, Broughton House, Salford, 2.30.

The Duchess of Gloucester attends film premier of *Evil Under The Sun*, in aid of Mountbatten Memorial Trust, ABC Cinema, Southampton, 7.45.

Princess Alexandra attends reception given by Hispanic and Luso Brazilian Council to mark forthcoming visit to Peru, Canning House, 2 Belgrave Square, SW1, 6.15.

New exhibitions

Andy Warhol: Portrait Screenprints 1965-80. Old Town Hall Arts Centre, Hemel Hempstead; Mon to Fri 10 to 4, Sat 9 to 12; (from today until April 17).

Ceramic sculpture by Eric Griffiths, City Museum and Art Gallery, Bethesda Street, Hanley, Stoke-on Trent; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, Wed 10.30 to 5; (from today *until* May 1).

Last chance to see

Indian and Persian Miniatures, Graham Robertson Room, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, 2 to 5; (ends today).

Drawings and sculpture by Henri Gaudier-Brzeska, Bohun Gallery, Station Road, Henley-on-Thames; 10 to 5.30; (ends today).

The Voyage of Life—ship imagery in art, literature and life. University Art Gallery, Portland Building, University Park, Nottingham; 11 to 7; (ends today).

Talks, lectures

Cricket Crazy by Basil D'Oliveira, Central Library, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton, 7.30.

Music

Recital by Nona Liddell (violin) and Daphne Ibbott (piano) Harvey Theatre, High Melton, Doncaster, 7.30.

Edinburgh String Quartet, Coolin Hills Hotel, Portree, Isle of Skye, 8.

General

London Is . . . Entertainment exhibition train highlighting variety of theatre in London's West End, and tourist attractions of the capital, Moor Street station, Birmingham, 10 to 5.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,789

ACROSS

1 Bible preacher's origins in Greater Manchester (6).
4 He's outside left in Athenian festival (8).
10 Write to sect to alter the festival (9).
11 Fish looking surprised? (5).
12 Transport industrial arbitrators to capital (7).
13 Confine to quarters near-by (7).
14 Titan at the Spanish mountains (5).
15 Lady's litter in the garden (8).
18 Nephew of Toby or of King Mark (8).
20 Bird turning colour? That's a duck (5).
23 Levy not made in form of something new (7).
25 Some connexion with sloths the *lion ate* (7).
26 His boys helped to keep the home fires burning in war-time (5).
27 Such a rat remaining unsuspected? (9).
28 Alien accepts money to murder thus (8).
29 Single silk fabric made from indigo derivative (6).

DOWN

1 Particular surveillance round City district (8).
2 Command heard at a seance (7).
3 River rises when 100 enter for manoeuvres (9).
5 One dressed in ragged material? Not Ted, anyway (14).
6 First frog king — his position — give reasoning (5).
7 Cassava product from a firm one Irishman set up (7).
8 Doone responsible for joint distribution? (6).
9 Touchstone de trop, this dish suggests (10,4).
16 Tailless bird Isaacson found in this book of words (9).
17 First two Georges. Third was the Second's (8).
19 Pick-me-up either way (7).
21 Decline to render 27? (7).
22 He conducted those made late in a bus crash (6).
24 Red labour leader upset baseball team (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,788

Roads

London and South-east: A25: Eastbound diversion around Dorking town centre; delays. A4: Cromwell Road reduced in width near junction with Earls Court. A33: Lane closures from 6 am until dusk between Popham and Winchester.

Midlands: A5: Width reduction at Kilsby and Cowellbend, Northamptonshire. M1: Only hard shoulder open southbound between junction 26 (Nottingham) and Trowell service area. M5: Lane closures between Worcester and Strensham (junctions 7 and 8).

Wales and West: Heavy traffic is expected on all approach roads to Stow-on-the-Wold because of horse sales, parking will be severely restricted within the area. The roads particularly A429, A424, A436 and B4450 and parking restrictions in town centre. restrictions in town centre. Gwyn Road, Llandudno closed between Tabor Hill and Black Gate; diversions. A35: Temporary signals in Exminster town centre.

North: A684: Delays at Leeming Bar, N Yorkshire. A56: Roadworks at Hoole roundabout, Chester. A6072: Roadworks on Heighington by-pass, Co Durham.

Scotland: A68: Temporary signals on Old Dalkeith Road near Kingston Avenue, Edinburgh. A74: Lane closures at Johnstonebridge, Dumfriesshire. A1: Temporary signals at Harelaw Bridge, S of Grantshouse, Berwickshire.

Information supplied by the AA.

Sea

A strike of French dockers will disrupt Sealink Newhaven/Dieppe ferries today. Passengers should call 01-828 7603.

Anniversaries

Bela Bartók was born at Nagyszentmiklós, Hungary (now Sinnicolau Mare, Romania), 1881. Claude Debussy died in Paris, 1918. The Rotherhithe-Wapping Thames Tunnel was opened for foot passengers, 1843.

National Day: Greece Independence Day). On March 25, 1821, Greece raised the standard of independence, and on March 25, 1924, proclaimed a republic.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on law and order.

Lords (3): Travel Concessions (London) Bill, third reading. Dissemination of Pornography Bill, second reading.

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The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.78	1.70
Austria Sch	31.75	29.75
Belgium Fr	94.00	89.00
Canada $	2.28	2.19
Denmark Kr	15.25	14.45
Finland Mkk	8.65	8.20
France Fr	11.65	11.05
Germany DM	4.49	4.24
Greece Dr	116.00	109.00
Hongkong $	10.90	10.30
Ireland Pt	1.27	1.22
Italy Lir	2415.00	2315.00
Japan Yn	464.00	438.00
Netherlands Gld	4.94	4.68
Norway Kr	11.37	10.77
Portugal Esc	132.00	125.00
South Africa Rd	2.25	2.05
Spain Pta	194.00	185.00
Sweden Kr	11.02	10.44
Switzerland Fr	3.58	3.36
USA $	1.87	1.80
Yugoslavia Dnr	99.00	93.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The *FT* Index fell 1.7 to 562.6.

The papers

Hillhead now means too much to the SDP, the **Daily Mirror** says, "as if the family fortunes depended on one spin of the political roulette wheel; tonight may show whether Roy Jenkins has managed to break the mould of British politics, or whether the SDP was a bubble which has burst".

Criticising the Commission for Racial Equality for its threat to prosecute doctors who advertise for partners who share their Christian beliefs, the **Daily Mail** says: "How much better the state of racial relations would be if this busy-body Commission had never existed."

Sporting fixtures

Racing: *First day of Flat season.* Meeting at Doncaster (2.0). NH Meetings at Towcester (1.45) and Taunton (2.30). See page 21 for programmes.

Rugby Union: Rosslyn Park Schools' Sevens (10.0).

Badminton: All England championships at Wembley.

Rackets: Public Schools' doubles championships at Queen's Club.

Golf: Sunningdale Foursomes (9.0).

The Times list of best-selling books

Paperbacks

The White Hotel	D M Thomas	Penguin	£2.25
Mr Smith's Favourite Garden	Geoffrey Smith	BBC	£1.50
The Middle Ground	Margaret Drabble	Penguin	£1.50
XPD	Len Deighton	Granada	£1.95
Cal's Revenge	produced by Philip Lief	New English Library	£1.95
Rites of Passage	William Golding	Faber	£1.95
Reflex	Dick Francis	Pan	£1.50
Clowns of God	Morris West	Coronet	£1.95
Nuns and Soldiers	Iris Murdoch	Penguin	£1.95
Ben Retallick	E V Thompson	Pan	£1.75

The Times list is based on trade sales through Hammicks to 400 bookshops and verified retail sales through eight Hammicks bookshops and 20 others.

Weather

An anti cyclone centred over Holland will persist.

6 am to midnight

London, E, Central N, NE England, Midlands, East Anglia: Dry, mist or fog patches in places at first, sunny; wind variable, light; max temp 14C (57F).

SE, Central S, SW, NW England, Channel Isles, Wales: Dry, sunny, some coastal fog in places; wind variable, mainly S, light; max temp 13 to 15C (55 to 59F) inland, near normal 10C (50F) on coasts.

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: Dry, sunny periods inland, mostly cloudy, fog, perhaps drizzle on coasts; wind SW, light; max temp 13C (55F) inland, normal on coasts

Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Moray Firth: Dry, sunny periods, misty at first; wind SW, light; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 58F).

Central Highlands, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy, some drizzle on exposed coasts and hills, bright intervals in sheltered areas, wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 10C (50F)

N Ireland: Mainly dry, bright or sunny periods; wind SW moderate; max temp 12C (54F).

Outlook for Friday and Saturday: Little change.

SEA PASSAGES: S, North Sea: Wind light and variable, becoming SW, light or moderate; sea smooth. **Straits of Dover, English Channel (E):** Wind light and variable: sea smooth. **St George's Channel:** Wind S, light or moderate, sea smooth or slight. **Irish Sea:** Wind SW, moderate, locally fresh in N, sea slight.

Sun rises: 5.53 am | Sun sets: 6.22 pm
Moon rises: 6.25 am | Moon sets: 6.25 pm
New moon: 10.17 am.

Lighting up time

London 6.52 pm to 5.21 am
Bristol 7.01 pm to 5.30 am
Edinburgh 7.06 pm to 5.30 am
Manchester 7.01 pm to 5.28 am
Penzance 7.13 pm to 5.43 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	11	52	Guernsey	s	8	46
Birmingham	s	12	54	Inverness	c	12	54
Blackpool	c	9	48	Jersey	s	8	46
Bristol	s	13	55	London	s	10	50
Cardiff	s	10	50	Manchester	s	12	54
Edinburgh	c	13	55	Newcastle	c	11	52
Glasgow	c	11	52	Ronaldsway	c	9	48

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Aberdeen, Fraserburgh Head, 17C (63F); lowest day max. Thanet, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Stornoway, .21in; highest sunshine: Bognor Regis, 11.1hr.

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 151R: 19.41-19.47; WNW; 70NE; E* and 21.20-21.22; W; 35WSW; WSW*. Cosmos 236: 20.1-20.6; SW; 50SE; E* and 21.40-21.42; W; 35W; W*. Cosmos 185R: (March 26) 1.13-1.15; NE*; 30NE; NE and 2.50-2.56; NW*; 55NNW; NE and 4.29-4.37; NW; 30N; ENE. Cosmos 1286: 19.42-19.47; WNW; 20NW; NNE and 21 20-21.22; NNW; 15N; N. Cosmos 1220: (March 26) 5.2-5.10; SW; 75SSW; NE. Seasat: 19.59-20.8; NNE; 45WNW; WSW and (March 26) 2.27-2.35; E; 35NE; NNW and 4.4-4.14; SSE; 65WSW; NW.

Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)

LOW 992 HIGH 1032 1008 1016 1024

NOON TODAY

b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast, f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist, r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	8.3	—	14	57	Sunny
Bridlington	10.4	—	14	57	Sunny
Bournemouth	9.2	—	9	48	Sunny
Poole	7.1	—	11	52	Sun pds
Swanage	8.7	—	8	46	Sunny
Weymouth	10.0	—	10	50	Sunny
Exmouth	7.8	—	10	50	Sun pds
Teignmouth	7.9	—	10	50	Sun pds
Torquay	8.4	—	11	52	Sunny
Falmouth	7.9	—	11	52	Sun pds
Penzance	10.9	—	13	55	Sunny
Scilly Isles	10.8	—	13	55	Sunny
Ilfracombe	10.0	—	11	52	Sunny
Tenby	8.3	—	12	54	Sunny
Anglesey	6.8	—	10	50	Sun pds
Colwyn Bay	6.5	—	11	52	Sun pds
Southport	4.4	—	11	52	Sun ints
Blackpool	4.3	—	12	54	Sun ints
Morecambe	3.5	—	11	52	Sun ints
Aldergrove	3.0	—	13	55	Sun ints
Eskdalemuir	0.3	—	11	52	Fog am
Prestwick	1.1	—	13	55	Cloudy
Abbotsinch	1.3	—	13	55	Cloudy
Tiree	—	—	11	52	Cloudy
Stornoway	0.3	.21	11	52	Rain
Lerwick	—	.05	8	46	Cloudy
Wick	4.3	—	15	59	Sun ints
Kinloss	4.4	.02	15	59	Sun ints
Dyce	7.4	—	17	63	Sun pds
Leuchars	5.1	—	15	59	Sun ints

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT		AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1:42	7.0	2.08	7.3	Ilfracombe	6.0	9.2	6.18	9.2
Aberdeen	1.17	4.1	1.17	4.3	Leith	2.35	5.4	2.43	5.6
Avonmouth	7.12	13.1	7.31	13.2	Liverpool	11.16	9.5	11.36	9.4
Belfast	10.54	3.4	11.15	3.2	Newquay	5.02	7.1	5.22	7.1
Cardiff	6.57	12.1	7.16	12.2	Oban	5.50	4.1	6.08	3.9
Devonport	5.45	5.6	6.11	5.5	Penzance	4.41	5.6	5.07	5.6
Falmouth	5.15	5.3	5.41	5.3	Portland	6.56	2.2	7.35	2.1
Glasgow	12.43	4.4	1.03	4.8	Portsmouth	11.20	4.6	11.47	4.7
Holyhead	10.16	5.7	10.38	5.5	Swansea	6.19	9.5	6.38	9.6
Hull	6.22	7.3	6.28	7.6	Tees	3.38	5.3	3.43	5.5

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	c	12	54	Cologne	s	11	52	Lisbon	s	19	66	Reykjavik	c	-4	39
Akrotiri	c	15	59	Copenhagen	c	9	48	Locarno	s	12	54	Rhodes	c	16	61
Alexandria	c	19	66	Corfu	s	14	57	Luxembourg	s	10	50	Riyadh	f	30	86
Algiers	c	14	57	Dublin	s	12	54	Madrid	s	11	52	Rio de J*	c	25	77
Amsterdam	f	6	43	Dubrovnik	s	13	55	Majorca	c	12	54	Rome	c	14	57
Athens	c	6	43	Faro	s	19	66	Malaga	c	17	63	Seoul	s	8	46
Bahrain*	c	25	77	Florence	f	13	55	Malta	c	15	54	Singapore	c	31	88
Barcelona	f	13	55	Frankfurt	s	10	50	Milan	s	13	55	Stockholm	c	4	39
Beirut*	s	20	68	Funchal	c	17	63	Moscow	s	4	49	Strasbourg	s	10	50
Belgrade	s	6	43	Geneva	s	7	45	Munich	s	7	45	Tangier	s	19	66
Berlin	s	10	50	Gibraltar	c	18	64	Nairobi	f	30	86	Tel Aviv	s	19	66
Biarritz	f	9	48	Helsinki	c	2	36	Naples	c	14	57	Tenerife	f	21	70
Boulogne	f	8	46	Hongkong	f	26	79	New Delhi	r	21	70	Tokyo	c	16	61
Bordeaux	f	10	50	Innsbruck	s	8	46	Nice	f	12	54	Tunis	f	15	59
Brussels	s	7	45	Istanbul	c	3	37	Oslo	c	[illegible]	[illegible]	Valencia	f	11	52
Cairo	f	22	72	Jiddah	s	33	91	Paris	s	10	50	Venice	s	12	54
Cape Town	s	18	64	Jo'burg*	f	22	72	Perth	s	26	79	Vienna	s	8	46
Casablanca	s	18	64	Karachi	f	27	81	Peking	s	8	46	Warsaw	s	7	45
Chicago*	f	11	52	Las Palmas	f	20	68	Prague	s	8	46	Zurich	s	8	46

*denotes last night's figures are latest available

